COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 651.

TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.

REPORT FOR 1909.

(For Report for 1908, *see* Foreign Office Annual Series, No. 4274.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
September, 1910.

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No. 651.

TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Office of the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific,
Suva, Fiji, 7th July, 1910.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit for your information copies of the Annual Report for the year 1909 on the Tongan Islands Protectorate, which has been drawn up by His Britannic Majesty's Agent and Consul for Tonga, and also a copy of his covering despatch.

I have, &c.,
EVERARD IM THURN.

The Right Honourable
The Earl of Crewe, K.G.,
Secretary of State for the Colonies.

His Britannic Majesty's Agency and Consulate,
Tonga,
30th May, 1910.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a report on the Tongan Islands Protectorate for the year 1909.

2. There has been a delay in the completion of this report owing to the late receipt of returns from outlying islands.

3. I am indebted to Dr. C. E. Maguire, the Senior Medical Officer, Tonga, for information relating to the public health of the group.

4. It will be seen that the year has been a prosperous one for the Protectorate, resulting in an improved financial position.

5. Should it be considered that credit is due to the local administration for the condition of Tonga, as revealed in the report, I trust that it will be remembered that my predecessor, Mr. Hamilton Hunter, whom I did not relieve until September, 1909, assisted to frame the Estimates and directed operations for the greater part of the year.

I have, &c.,
W. TELFER CAMPBELL.

His Excellency
Sir Everard im Thurn, K.C.M.G., C.B.,
&c., &c.,
High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

(17573—2.) Wt. 27349—387. 1125 &.85. 9/10. D & S. A 2

REPORT ON THE TONGA ISLANDS PROTECTORATE FOR 1909.

The prosperity of the Protectorate, situated in the Southern Pacific, about 400 miles E.S.E. of Fiji, between the parallels of 15° and 23° 30′ south latitude, and between 173° and 177° west longitude, was well maintained during the year 1909, as is shown by the returns of revenue and expenditure.

FINANCIAL.

Revenue.

	1908. £	s.	d.	1909. £	s.	d.
Taxes ...	11,814	18	3	11,760	9	6
Customs ...	14,490	8	2	20,292	5	1
Licences ...	1,124	17	0	1,347	6	0
Post Office ...	612	15	10	570	17	4
Rents... ...	1,703	19	4	1,766	1	3
Fees and Fines	3,479	12	0	4,014	16	5
Incidentals ...	366	4	5	704	15	0
Totals ...	33,592	15	0	40,456	10	7

Expenditure.

	1908. £	s.	d.	1909. £	s.	d.
The King ...	2,425	8	9	2,856	2	7
Legislature ...	1,146	18	4	1,632	8	0
Premier ...	1,066	0	0	1,066	0	0
Governors ...	700	0	0	655	2	1
Auditor-General	222	0	0	222	0	0
Customs, P.O., Treasury	2,598	14	5	2,803	1	11
Lands... ...	2,227	14	0	2,576	1	5
Justice ...	1,301	0	6	1,349	6	3
Police ...	3,177	14	3	3,278	6	0
Education ...	1,588	0	0	1,645	10	0
Band	362	12	11	301	8	3
Pensions ...	134	1	0	138	5	0
Printing Office	348	0	0	378	0	0
Government Vessels ...	1,140	7	8	884	4	3
Medical ...	2,151	2	8	2,275	19	0
Government Stores ...	467	14	1	553	19	8
„ Buildings	2,986	8	0	1,800	13	11
Miscellaneous	1,395	14	11	1,195	0	1
Public Works Extraordinary and non-Recurrent ...	16,703	6	10	9,127	17	4
	42,142	18	4	34,739	5	9

The decrease shown in revenue under the head of taxes in 1909 is due to outstanding taxes payable in 1907 being paid in 1908 and included in the returns for the later year. The revenue has in every instance exceeded that estimated with the exception of one item, Post Office, which is only slightly under the amount estimated (£600).

The principal increases in expenditure under the heads of the King and Legislature, are due to some provision being made for celebrating King George Tubou's marriage, and the meeting (triennial) of the Legislative Assembly, both of which events occurred during the year. The considerable decrease in expenditure under the head of Public Works Extraordinary, etc., was due to no work of any magnitude being undertaken, such as the Vavau wharf, on which over £8,000 was incurred in 1908.

The following table shows a satisfactory and almost continuous surplus:—

Comparative Statement of Total Revenue and Expenditure for the last five years—1905-1909.

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1905	31,841	17,270
1906	32,466	29,284
1907	34,912	33,540
1908	33,592	42,142
1909	40,456	34,739

No changes of any importance in taxation were made during 1908.

Tonga can hardly be considered to have a public debt. The Protectorate was granted a loan some years ago by His Majesty's Government. This has been paid off in regular instalments, with interest, in accordance with the terms of the loan. The balance outstanding offers no financial embarrassment.

British coin is the only legal tender.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

The chief articles imported are shown in the comparative statement of values of principal imports.

Article.	1908.	1909.
	£	£
Bags and sacks	2,307	6,200
Biscuits	2,950	4,453
Boots and shoes	886	1,587
Butter	959	1,197
Cigars and tobacco	1,135	580
Cordage and rope	1,088	1,315
Drapery	27,721	41,464
Drugs	894	1,109
Fish	3,011	5,683

Article.	1908. £	1909. £
Flour	4,593	6,991
Galvanized iron and ironware	1,189	5,296
Hardware and ironmongery	4,626	6,935
Leatherware, all kinds ...	979	2,958
Meats	11,541	16,646
Oil, kerosine	1,760	3,044
Oil, others	971	3,057
Soap	1,112	1,462
Spirits	909	1,090
Sugar	2,075	3,522
Timber	4,771	8,470
Vehicles	1,248	4,064
Fruit cases	3,341	2,139

Copra, the staple export, is generally shipped in bags or sacks. The year's increased output, therefore, may be fairly accurately gauged by the great increase in the value of these imports.

The increase in foodstuffs, clothing, building materials, leatherware, and vehicles imported, all point to the increased spending power of the natives and to general prosperity during 1909. Evidence of good seasons is given by the reduction shown in the import of tobacco.

In a good season the supply of locally-grown tobacco leaf is sufficiently abundant to provide the natives with material for making selukas—cigarettes made of leaf tobacco wrapped in banana leaves. While these selukas are obtainable natives have little use for imported and manufactured tobacco. The only other item showing a reduction among the principal imports is fruit cases (shooks) for which the demand was curtailed in consequence of the New Zealand Government having legislated against the importation of fruit from Tonga.

Among foodstuffs the quantity of fish—dried, preserved, and salt—imported is somewhat of a reflection on the energy of the natives. Tonga waters abound in fish, which may be easily caught with the exercise of a little energy. A good portion of this fish would be caught, dried, preserved, salted, and perhaps exported by any community less favoured by nature, and possessing a fair amount of energy and enterprise.

The following table shows the quantities and values of principal articles of merchandise exported in 1908 and 1909:—

—	1908.		1909.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Tons.	£	Tons.	£
Copra	9,886	115,959	14,824	203,836
	Cases.		Cases.	
Fruit	111,393	14,187	74,067	7,930
Total	—	130,146	—	211,766

The great increase in the yield of copra, occurring as it did simultaneously with a rise in the market, rendered the year's transactions in the commodity very satisfactory.

The following table gives the total value of trade with the United Kingdom, British possessions, and foreign countries during the past five years:—

FOREIGN CUSTOMERS.

Comparative Statement giving Foreign Countries and Values of Imports imported therefrom.

1905—1909.

—	Commonwealth of Australia.	New Zealand.	Germany.	Fiji.	United States.	United Kingdom.	Samoa.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1905	32,017	31,950	N.G.	2,080	3,097	N.G.	1,724	N.G.
1906	25,916	41,248	7,215	2,359	176	540	1,899	10
1907	36,570	42,969	11,046	3,315	189	85	3,581	65
1908	34,095	43,992	10,483	4,585	2,482	1,419	1,041	69
1909	51,425	68,305	15,591	7,022	3,852	2,306	3,858	511

In this statement it should be borne in mind that many of the imports from Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, and Samoa were originally imported from the United Kingdom and Germany; consequently the imports from the two latter countries are greater than shown.

A totally correct return is not obtainable, there being no regulation requiring importers to state the countries of origin on the customs entry form. The greater part of the trade in drapery is done with Germany, through German firms in German Samoa and Fiji. This is easily accounted for, since German merchants and their travellers take more interest locally in the requirements of their customers, both as regards price, quality, and pattern.

Agriculture.—With the exception of a few small plantations leased by foreigners, agriculture is confined to the cultivation of food crops. The cultivation of cocoanuts and fruit, the principal articles of export, is not systematically followed by the natives The increased exports for 1909 are due to the favourable seasons rather than to the assiduity of native cultivators.

Industries.—The industries of Tonga are not of striking magnitude. They principally consist of the making of copra and tapa, the manufacture of the latter being confined to women whose manifold labours in connection therewith do not, unfortunately, add to the national wealth.

Lands.—It is not possible to purchase land in the Protectorate. There is no freehold. Land may be leased from the chiefs and Government in blocks of 100 to 200 acres for 25 to 50 years, with option of renewal. The rent varies from about four to six shillings per acre. The average cost of clearing is approxi-

mately £15 per acre without ploughing. Cocoanuts, which come into bearing in six or more years, cost about £9 per acre to plant. The cost of planting bananas, which bear after the first year, is £11 per acre.

Shipping.—Statement of navigation, showing the nationality, number, and tonnage of foreign-going merchant vessels entered:—

Steamers.		1908.		1909.	
Port.	Nationality.	Vessels.	Tonnage	Vessels.	Tonnage.
Nukualofa	British ...	17	37,821	15	30,270
Vavau	„ ...	14	27,667	16	29,751
Total	„ ...	31	65,488	31	60,021
Nukualofa	German ...	—	—	1	458
Total		31	65,488	32	60,479
Sailing Vessels.					
Nukualofa	British ...	5	561	6	744
„	American	—	—	1	695
Haapai	Norwegian	3	2,084	2	1,391
„	German ...	1	37	—	—
Vavau	British ...	—	—	—	—
„	American	1	399	—	—
„	Norwegian	—	—	2	1,633
Total		10	3,081	11	4,463
Total Shipping Entered ...		41	68,569	43	64,942

Statement of navigation showing the nationality, number, and tonnage of foreign-going merchant vessels cleared:—

Steamers.		1908.		1909.	
Port.	Nationality.	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
Nukualofa	British ...	17	38,561	13	28,981
Vavau	„ ...	14	26,927	18	31,040
Total	„ ...	31	65,488	31	60,479
Sailing Vessels.					
Nukualofa	British ...	4	504	5	598
Haapai	Norwegian	1	699	2	1,391
„	German ...	1	37	—	—
Vavau	British ...	1	57	2	198
„	American	1	399	1	695
„	Norwegian	2	1,394	2	1,633
Total		10	3,090	12	4,515
Total Shipping Cleared ...		41	68,578	44	64,994

Comparative statement of total shipping—inwards and outwards—1905-1909:—

Year.	Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Number of ships.	Tonnage.	Number of ships.	Tonnage.
1905*	46	42,953	45	42,167
1906*	60	68,965	61	70,413
1907	30	47,056	31	47,747
1908	41	68,569	41	68,578
1909	43	64,942	44	64,994

* These figures show vessels registered at every call, inward and outward, at each port.

The increased tonnage in 1908 was due to a line of steamers running between San Francisco and Auckland, New Zealand, calling at Tonga. These vessels, representing 10,000 tons, only called for a few months.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

These are at present limited to schools and hospitals. There is a Government college for the free education of Tongan youths. It is intended to increase the utility of this establishment by adding technical instruction to the curriculum. Village schools have been established. The system of primary education is open to unfavourable comment; under existing conditions there is not sufficient supervision over teachers or pupils to ensure the best results for the expenditure incurred.

The frequent breaks in school attendance, schools not being conducted throughout the week, and many vacations, result in education being carried out in a desultory manner.

There is a hospital established at each of the three head centres in the group. Each is under a resident medical officer (European). The benefits to be derived from these establishments are, unfortunately, not fully availed of by the Tongans. The latent faith, found in many Tongans, in the efficacy of old native drugs and doctrine causes modern remedies and methods to be treated, as far as possible, with doubt if not with contempt. The civilization of Tonga will have to be much deeper than it is before its natives can properly appreciate modern medical service and the services of its votaries.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

The Department of Justice is presided over by the Judge, a European, of the Supreme Court, under which is the magistracy, consisting of five stipendiary magistrates (natives) in charge of districts.

The Minister of Police is assisted by 6 inspectors, 5 sergeants, and 37 constables. In the absence of any very serious crime the duties of the constabulary are not heavy.

There are six prisons in the Protectorate. The prison staff consists of six chief gaolers, an assistant gaoler, and twelve warders. The dilapidated condition of some of the gaol buildings has been accelerated through not being occupied. Male prisoners, of which the numbers are limited, are mostly engaged cultivating native foodstuffs on Government plantations. This, although it saves heavy expenditure in imported rations, is not satisfactory, since there is nothing permanent to show for the time and labour of prisoners. The pursuit of agriculture by Tongan prisoners brings out a peculiarity which may be justly ascribed to environment. As a prisoner the Tongan shows preference for a diet of native foodstuffs; as a free man he generally shows partiality for imported food. Were prisoners fed on imported food and their labours confined to road-making or other works of public utility, and of a more strenuous nature than the cultivation of yam patches, sentences of imprisonment would be more effectual.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

During the year 1909 there were 17 cases heard with juries and 32 cases from the lower courts re-heard, by order of the Cabinet, under the criminal jurisdiction of the Supreme Court.

Prison Returns, 1909.

Police offences	115
Theft	2
Petty theft	69
Drunkenness	2
Breach of arms licence	6
Non-attendance at census	2
Absence from school	16
Cruelty to animals	6
Drinking spirits	5
Adultery	10
Slander	4
False pretences	2
Bigamy	1
Assault	5
Forgery	2
Perjury	5
Trespass	1

Cheating	4
Shooting fish with dynamite	1
Incest	2
Escaping from prison	8
Shooting in harbour	1
Throwing missiles	2
Sabbath breaking	1
Vagrancy	2
Total	274

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births.

	1908.	1909.
Males	167	152
Females	149	141
Totals	316	293

Deaths.

1908.	1909.
165	267

The returns of births and deaths are incomplete. From the returns available the population may be stated to total

1908 ... 21,695 1909 ... 21,958

The system of keeping registers of births and deaths is inadequate. Arrangements are being made for a complete census being taken in 1911. These arrangements will include provision for the more complete compilation in future years of vital statistics.

The most prevalent disease in Tonga is yaws. Native children are expected to go through an attack as a matter of course. If a child be lucky enough to escape its relatives consider that it will not be healthy.

Dysentery and enteric fever occur occasionally, but are not so prevalent as might be expected in view of the primitive sanitary arrangements which have existed for so long.

Cases of leprosy are scattered throughout the group. The matter of setting an island apart for the segregation of lepers is receiving the attention of the Tongan Government.

The Protectorate is free from malaria, which is, unfortunately, not the case with tubercular diseases, which are increasing. This increase is accounted for by the habits of the natives, and the practice, as elsewhere in the Pacific, of overclothing themselves with European clothing, which when wet through is

allowed to dry on the body, and is, at night time, or when the heat is felt, frequently discarded.

There is generally a slight epidemic of influenza twice in the year. Epidemics are of comparatively rare occurrence. The last, in the year 1893, caused, it is estimated, the deaths of about two thousand natives.

The provision made for sanitation so far has been inadequate. The low-lying nature of most of the islands of the group renders the matter of drainage a difficult one. A sanitary regulation requires householders to erect closets on their properties. As these closets are simply pits dug in the ground, the subsoil water is constantly being contaminated, as are also the wells from which water for drinking and cooking purposes is drawn. The Government has instituted a system of concrete tanks throughout the group for the conservation of rain-water. It is hoped that this will considerably diminish the risks attached to drinking well-water.

During eight months (April-December) of the year the climate is good for a tropical one. The remaining four months comprise what is known as the hurricane season, in which the weather is hot and humid, with a good deal of rain. I regret I am unable to obtain reliable meteorological observations.

An island of the group, Niuafoou, was visited by a hurricane early in 1909. There was no loss of life, but some damage was done to the plantations. As a shortness of food was the consequent result, the Government of Tonga sent supplies to the island. Happily circumstances did not require the relief to be of any great extent.

No public work of any magnitude was undertaken during 1909. Road-making was continued, but owing to increasing distances between the roads under construction and the source of supply of road metal—coral, generally obtained from the reef—progress was retarded. Another cause of slowness in road-making lies in the local labour supply, which is neither reliable nor efficient. It is hoped and expected that proposals made for establishing a supply of labour, and for securing some modern appliances for road-making, together with the services of a competent official to superintend public works generally, good progress will be made.

The future prospects of trade are promising, provided the group is not visited by a hurricane, and average seasons are experienced during 1910, and also provided that the present market value of copra does not fall to any extent.

The climate of Tonga is not suitable for Europeans to perform hard manual labour in for any length of time. Rates of wages and cost of living are high.

Local labourers (non-white) ask four shillings per diem; sometimes they succeed in getting more, although their labour is generaly unskilled. All European articles of food are imported, which makes the cost of living high. The customs tariff ranges from 25 per cent. to 10 per cent. ad valorem.

There is little, if any, opening for the investment of capital. The main channel would be in plantations, but as large areas

of land are not obtainable, there is no room for the investment of large sums.

Viewed superficially, the social condition of the people is not a low one. Social progress is not likely to be rapid in the immediate future, Western civilization having been introduced, and many of its principal features readily embraced by the Tongans, before the very necessary foundations were laid on which to build a solid structure. The early pioneers of civilization in Tonga made the great mistake of not taking care to hasten slowly.

In view of the satisfactory financial position of the Protectorate and the present promising condition of the islands, we may reasonably look forward to the prosperity of 1909 being exceeded in 1910.

W. TELFER CAMPBELL.

Nukualofa, Tonga,
30th May, 1910.

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621	Trinidad and Tobago	"
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628	Grenada	1908
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649	Somaliland	1909–1910
650	Bahamas	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

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66	Gold Coast	Forests.
67	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1905–6.
68	Do. do.	Do. do. 1906–7.
69	St. Helena	Fisheries.
70	Colonies	List of Laws relating to Patents, Trade Marks, &c.
71	Imperial Institute	Foodstuffs.
72	Fiji	Hurricane, 1910.
73	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.

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REPORT FOR 1910.

(For Report for 1909, *see* No. 651.)

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February, 1912.

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Map.

No. 707.

TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.

THE ASSISTANT HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Office of the High Commissioner for the
Western Pacific,
Suva, Fiji, 27th November, 1911.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith for your information a copy of a despatch which I have received from His Britannic Majesty's Agent and Consul for Tonga, covering a report on the Tongan Islands Protectorate for the year 1910.

I have, &c.,

ARTHUR MAHAFFY,
Assistant High Commissioner.

The Right Honourable
Lewis Harcourt, M.P.,
Secretary of State for the Colonies.

His Britannic Majesty's Agency and Consulate,
Tonga,
18th October, 1911.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a report on the Tongan Islands Protectorate for the year 1910.

I regret there has been a delay in the completion of the report, owing to an extra pressure of work of an unusual nature and to waiting for returns to be furnished by the Government of Tonga. As some of these returns have not been supplied I have had to omit them.

I have, &c.,

W. TELFER CAMPBELL.

His Excellency
The High Commissioner
for the Western Pacific.

(22532—2.) Wt. 29478—551. 1125 & 83. 3/12. D. & S. A

REPORT ON THE TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE FOR THE YEAR 1910.

The absence of droughts and hurricanes for a number of years has been the chief factor in bringing about the satisfactory financial and commercial condition of the Tongan Group at the end of the year 1910.

The Tongan Islands Protectorate embraces the three Groups of Tongatabu, Haabai, and Vavau and the outlying islands of Nuiatabutabu, Tafahi, and Niuafoou, as shown on the accompanying map.

FINANCIAL.

General Revenue and Expenditure, 1909 and 1910.

Revenue.

	1909. £	s.	d.	1910. £	s.	d.
Taxes	11,760	9	6	11,658	0	0
Customs	20,292	5	1	22,720	16	4
Licences	1,347	6	0	1,773	10	0
Post Office	570	17	4	693	2	7
Rents	1,766	1	3	2,574	0	1
Fees and Fines ...	4,014	16	5	3,890	16	5
Incidentals ...	704	15	0	696	16	4
Totals ...	£40,456	10	7	£44,007	1	9

Expenditure.

	1909. £	s.	d.	1910. £	s.	d.
The King	2,856	2	7	2,506	17	0
Legislature	1,632	8	0	1,130	0	0
Premier	1,066	0	0	1,037	3	4
Governors	655	2	1	712	0	0
Auditor-General ...	222	0	0	209	10	0
Customs, Post Office, Treasury ...	2,803	1	11	3,170	5	7
Lands	2,576	1	5	2,677	14	0
Justice	1,349	6	3	1,367	6	6
Police	3,278	6	0	3,934	16	9
Education	1,645	10	0	1,730	7	6
Band	301	8	3	270	0	9
Pensions	138	5	0	137	0	0
Printing Office ...	378	0	0	883	19	5
Government Vessels	884	4	3	1,481	2	5
Medical	2,275	19	0	2,665	4	4
Government Stores	553	19	8	778	7	2
Government Buildings	1,800	13	11	5,210	8	2
Miscellaneous ...	1,195	0	1	1,596	8	10
Public Works, Extraordinary and Non-Recurrent ...	9,127	17	4	11,118	11	4
Totals ...	£34,739	5	9	£42,617	3	1

The decrease in revenue under the head of Taxes does not support the allegation made by a few foreigners that the taxation of natives had been increased. All other items of revenue show an increase with the exception of Fees and Fines, the levying and collection of which is not satisfactory.

The total revenue received was £10,000 in excess of that estimated. Under the head of Customs the estimate was exceeded by more than £6,000. This sum is mainly derived from import duties.

Increased expenditure under the heads of Police and Government Vessels may be attributed in a large measure to the system under which rations are obtained and supplied to officials.

Failure to adhere to the programme laid down when the Estimates were framed, the absence of proper supervision, and the employment of unskilled labour at high wages have resulted in the vote for Government Buildings being considerably exceeded.

The total revenue and expenditure was in excess of that of any of the preceding four years, as will be seen from the following

Comparative Statement of Revenue and Expenditure for the last five years—1906-1910.

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1906	32,466	29,284
1907	34,912	33,540
1908	33,592	42,142
1909	40,456	34,739
1910	44,007	42,617

When the Estimates were framed for the year provision was made for expenditure on Public Works, Extraordinary and Non-recurrent, to be made out of reserve funds. The increased revenue has enabled a balance exceeding the amount of this expenditure to be placed to the credit of the reserve. The latter amounted to over £17,000 at the end of the financial year.

Taxation.—No changes of any importance were made in taxation during the year.

Currency.—British coin, the only legal tender, was imported to the value of £52,765.

Value of Specie imported during the years 1906-1910.

	£
1906	15,965
1907	11,374
1908	10,700
1909	50,093
1910	52,765

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports.—The chief articles imported are shown in the comparative statement of values of principal imports during the years 1909 and 1910.

	1909.	1910.
	£	£
Bags and sacks	6,200	4,081
Biscuits	4,453	5,484
Boots and shoes	1,587	1,360
Butter	1,197	1,501
Cigars and tobacco	580	2,354
Cordage and rope	1,315	1,501
Drapery	41,464	42,100
Drugs	1,109	1,089
Fish, dried, preserved, and salt	5,683	5,013
Flour	6,991	7,302
Galvanized iron and galvanized ironware	5,296	5,118
Hardware and ironmongery...	6,935	7,474
Leatherware, all kinds ...	2,958	2,040
Meats, preserved	16,646	15,433
Oil, kerosene	3,044	2,168
,, other	3,075	726
Soap	1,462	1,284
Spirits	1,090	1,232
Sugar	3,522	4,114
Timber	8,470	9,782
Vehicles	4,064	4,500
Fruit, cases	2,139	1,946

This comparative statement, in which articles which may be classed as luxuries and building materials show satisfactory increases, points to a year of commercial prosperity.

More than three-quarters of the imports are received from Australia and New Zealand, these being the only countries in direct communication with the Group until recently, when a line of steamers running between San Francisco and Australia resumed calling at the three principal ports.

Total Imports, showing Foreign Countries and values of commodities exported therefrom, for five years—1906-1910.

—	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.
	£	£	£	£	£
Australia	25,916	36,570	34,095	51,425	44,338
New Zealand	41,248	42,969	43,992	68,305	78,160
Germany	7,215	11,046	10,483	15,591	16,678
Fiji	2,359	3,315	4,585	7,022	7,964
United States	176	189	2,482	5,852	6,809
United Kingdom	540	185	1,419	2,306	3,455
Samoa	1,899	3,581	1,041	3,858	2,103
Other Countries	10	65	69	511	1,027

Exports.—Copra is the only article exported in any quantity. About one-quarter of the total output is shipped to Europe, the balance going to Australia, with the exception of a small quantity which is taken to New Zealand.

The export of fruit is very limited, and is confined to bananas, which go to the New Zealand market. The shipments during the year might have been considerably increased had more energy been exercised and advantage taken of the improved market following the failure, after a hurricane, of supplies from elsewhere. A commencement was made during the latter end of the year by the Government of Tonga to improve the quality of copra and fruit exported. The action taken should result before very long in Tongan produce gaining a better reputation for quality in foreign markets.

Comparative Statement of the principal articles exported during the years 1909 *and* 1910.

		1909.		1910.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			£		£
Copra...	Tons	14,234	203,836	12,998	232,866
Fruit	Packages	74,067	7,930	70,350	9,605
Fungus	Tons	12	590	22	1,082
Whale Oil	Casks	140	391	103	320

Fungus, purchased for the China market, is collected in a haphazard manner. Whaling is an occupation of too strenuous a nature to be followed by the natives of Tonga. Any great increase in these exports is improbable.

Comparative Statement of total Imports and Exports for five years—1906-1910.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total Trade.
	£	£	£
1906	79,363	142,811	222,174
1907	97,820	134,194	232,014
1908	98,166	133,272	231,438
1909	152,870	217,155	370,025
1910	160,543	245,946	406,489

The trade of the Protectorate could be increased considerably were the native Government to exercise a more efficient administration and make provision for an adequate supply of labour.

There are no mines, manufactures, or fisheries in Tonga—which is essentially an agricultural country.

Agriculture.—The wealth of Tonga being dependent upon the cultivation of its soil little progress can be made without atten-

tion to agriculture. After many representations to this end the Tongan Government has taken the first step to improve the cultivation of the soil by appointing an Agricultural Adviser. Although the appointment was not made until late in the year it showed sufficient justification for establishing a new department—that of Agriculture and Stock—for which provision was made by the Government at the commencement of the present financial year. The Agricultural Adviser and the Department of Agriculture and Stock, if properly supported, will be of very great value to Tonga. The native agriculturist is extremely primitive in his methods, and it will require time and patience to convince him of the superiority of modern over old-time systems. One of the Government plantations has been placed under the Agricultural Adviser and is being conducted as an experimental station with prison labour. It is anticipated that this plantation will grow more than sufficient foodstuffs for the maintenance of the police and prisoners on Tongatabu.

The necessity for agricultural development is apparent. Tonga is dependent, at present, solely upon the cocoa-nut palm as a source of wealth. This places the country in an unsound position, more particularly since the rhinoceros beetle has made its appearance in Samoa.

The soil, which has been favourably reported upon, offers every inducement to the agriculturist. The Agricultural Adviser has had parcels of soil, of average quality, from different places in Tongatabu, analyzed. The soil of Tongatabu is stated to be a dark, fairly-friable fine sandy clay of good capillarity, with excellent capacity for holding water. Mechanical and chemical analyses have given the following results:—

Mechanical Analysis.		Chemical Analysis.	
Stones	Nil.	Moisture ...	8·54
Gravel	,,	Organic matter and combined water ...	21·01
Coarse sand ...	2·0		
Fine ,, ...	48·8		
Silt	6·7	Total nitrogen ...	0·408
Fine silt	9·0	Potash K_2O ...	0·033
Clay	24·7	Phosphoric acid P_2O_5	0·009
Moisture, &c. ...	8·8		
	100·0		

"Available."

The soil on the other islands of the Group is alleged to be equally good. The deficiency in phosphoric acid is said to be almost general throughout Australasia.

Climate and soil strongly support agricultural development, but, unfortunately, many local circumstances stand in the way.

Land.—There is no freehold in Tonga, where land is held by the Government and by the chiefs. The latter assign portions to their followers, who are entitled to two holdings, one a town site and the other an allotment, of about eight and half acres, for growing foodstuffs, &c. Foreigners may obtain leaseholds, for varying periods up to fifty years, through the Minister of Lands. There are no large blocks available for plantations.

The rental for agricultural lands varies from about 4*s.* to 6*s.* per acre. The average cost of clearing land is about £15 per acre. Labour is scarce, unskilled, and expensive.

Shipping.—The inclusion during the year of the Group as a place of call for a line of steamers running between Australia and San Francisco caused a considerable increase in the shipping returns for 1910. There is a regular monthly mail service with Australia and New Zealand maintained by vessels belonging to the Union Steamship Company of New Zealand, which call every fortnight at the three principal ports of the Group—Nukualofa, Haabai, and Vavau.

Statement of Navigation showing the nationality, number, and tonnage of foreign-going merchant vessels entered, 1909-1910.

Steamers.		1909.		1910.	
Port.	Nationality.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.
Nukualofa	British ...	15	30,270	29	67,630
Vavau	„ ...	16	29,751	19	33,540
Total British		31	60,021	48	101,143
Nukualofa	German ...	1	458	—	—
Total Steamers Entered ...		32	60,479	48	101,143
Sailing Vessels.					
Nukualofa	British ...	6	744	7	904
„	American	1	695	2	880
Haabai	Norwegian	2	1,391	2	1,476
Vavau	British ...	—	—	—	—
„	Norwegian	2	1,633	—	—
Total Sailing Vessels Entered		11	4,463	11	3,260
Total Shipping Entered ...		43	64,942	59	104,403

Nukualofa (Tongatabu), Lifuka (Haabai), and Neiafu (Vavau) are the only ports of entry in the Protectorate.

Statement of Navigation showing the nationality, number, and tonnage of foreign-going merchant vessels cleared, 1909 *and* 1910.

Steamers.		1909.		1910.	
Port.	Nationality.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.
Nukualofa	British ...	13	28,981	29	67,603
Haabai	—	—	—	—	—
Vavau	British ...	18	31,040	18	29,833
Total British ...		31	60,021	47	97,436

Sailing Vessels.		1909.		1910.	
Port.	Nationality.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.
Nukualofa	British ...	5	598	4	506
Haabai...	American	—	—	2	880
„	Norwegian	2	1,391	3	2,136
Vavau	British ...	2	198	3	397
„	American	1	695	—	—
„	Norwegian	2	1,633	—	—
Total		12	4,515	12	3,919
Total Shipping Cleared ...		43	64,536	59	101,355

Comparative Statement of total shipping entered and cleared, 1906-1910.

Year.	Entered.		Cleared.	
	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.
1906	60	68,965	61	70,413
1907	30	47,056	31	47,747
1908	41	68,569	41	68,578
1909	43	64,942	44	64,994
1910	59	104,403	59	101,355

EDUCATION.

The Government College at Nukualofa was advanced by the appointment of a Technical Instructor in carpentry and the commencement of a Technical School. The knowledge to be gained at the latter will be of much more practical utility than that derived from instruction in higher mathematics and other advanced branches of learning formerly attempted.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Hospitals.—The three hospitals established at each of the principal settlements, Nukualofa, Lifuka, and Neiafu (Vavau), have been maintained. A new medical officer was appointed at Vavau, his predecessor having resigned. Tonga is unfortunate

in the number of changes which have taken place among its Government medical officers. The Tongans do not yet sufficiently appreciate the benefits to be derived from the Medical Department. In addition to the usual outbreaks of influenza the Protectorate was visited by an epidemic of measles, which was fortunately of a mild type.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Prisons.—A new gaol was built at Nukualofa during the year and the gaol premises were laid out in a more orderly manner with some regard to sanitation. The gaols at Haabai and Vavau still require renovation.

Return showing the number of Prisoners, and their offences, committed to gaol during the year 1910.

Offence.	Number.
Police offences	145
Larceny	94
Assault	3
Assault and battery	4
Drinking intoxicating liquor without a permit	18
Adultery	14
Other offences	49
Total number of prisoners ...	327

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

During the year there were 15 trials held before juries, and 15 trials from the Lower Courts re-heard by order of the Cabinet, under the Criminal Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court.

Return of Criminal Trials held before the Supreme Court of Tonga, 1910.

Offence.	Guilty.	Not Guilty.	Total.
Attempted bribery	1	—	1
Incest	1	1	2
Perjury	3	2	5
Forgery	1	—	1
Assault...	1	—	1
Larceny	2	—	2
Illegal conveyance of land	1	—	1
Rape	1	—	1
Gaol breaking	1	—	1
Total	12	3	15

Return of Appeals heard before the Supreme Court of Tonga, 1910.

Offence.	No.
Larceny	7
Illegally supplying liquor	1
Drinking intoxicating liquor without a permit	4
Assault and battery	1
Assault	1
Vagrancy	1
Total	15

The following return has been compiled by the Minister of Police:—

Return showing the numbers of Summonses, Warrants, and Subpœnas issued by the Magistrates' Courts during the year 1910.

Summonses, Criminal	7,898
,, Civil	3,580
,, to Jurors	153
Subpœnas	1,056
Search Warrants	19
Distress ,, ...	3,392
Warrants to Arrest	49
,, of Imprisonment	327

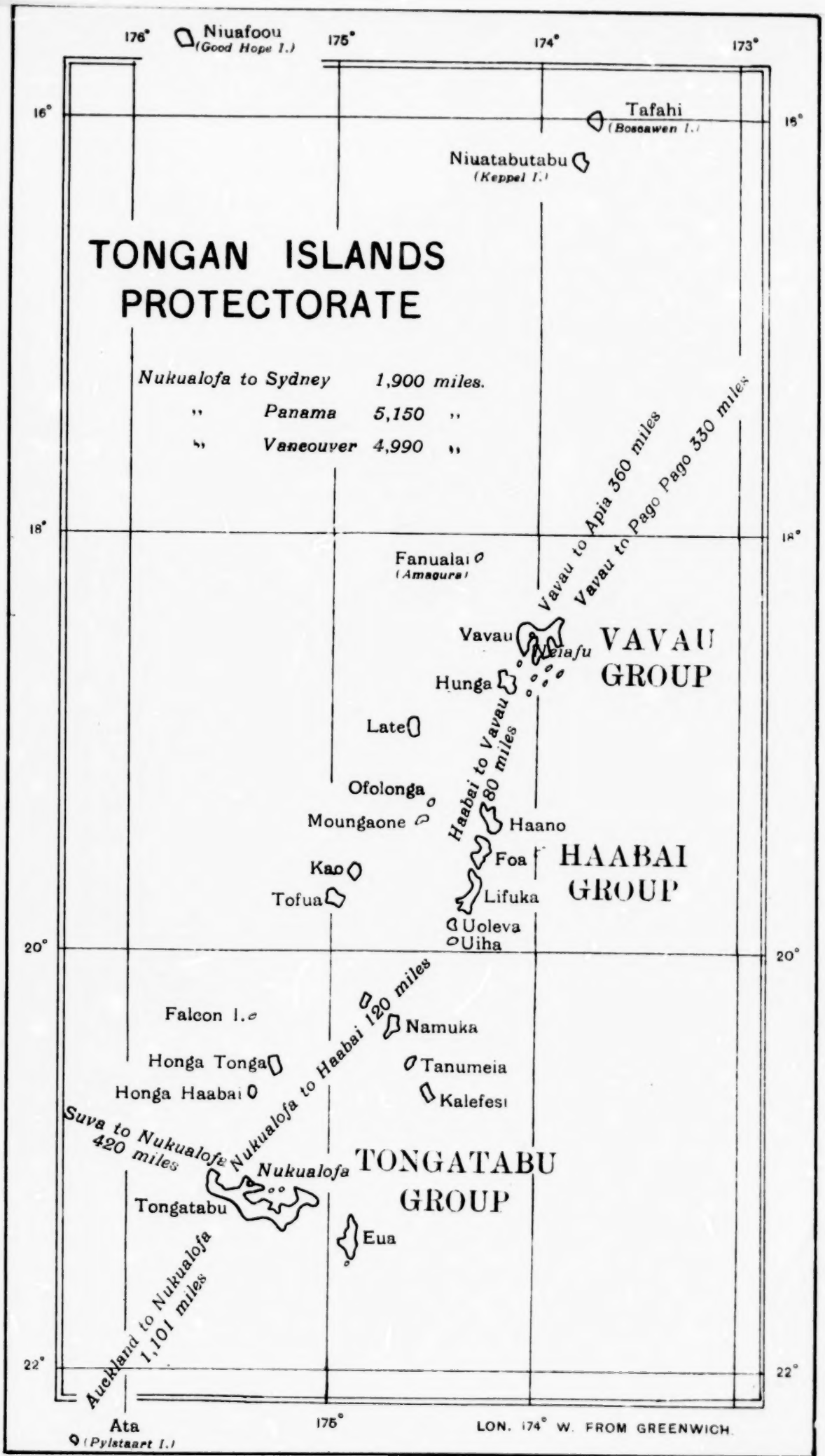
From this return the Magistrates' Courts, of which there are six, appear to be busily occupied in issuing writs. The great discrepancy between the number of summonses and warrants of imprisonment issued is due to offenders being fined in most instances instead of being sentenced to imprisonment.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The population in 1909 was stated to be 21,958. There was no Census taken during 1910.

With the exception of illness caused by the epidemics of influenza and measles the general state of public health was good.

The climate of Tonga is, for the tropics, a good one from May to October; during the remaining months it is enervating. No reliable records of the rainfall and temperature are available.


176°
Niuafoou
(Good Hope I.)
175°
174°
173°
16°
Tafahi
(Bossawen I.)
15°
Niuatabutabu
(Keppel I.)
TONGAN ISLANDS
PROTECTORATE
Nukualofa to Sydney 1,900 miles.
" Panama 5,150 "
" Vancouver 4,990 "
Vavau to Apia 360 miles
Vavau to Pago Pago 330 miles
18°
Fanualai
(Amargura)
Vavau
Kelafu
VAVAU
GROUP
Hunga
Late
Haabai to Vavau
80 miles
Ofolonga
Moungaone
Haano
Foa
HAABAI
GROUP
Kao
Tofua
Lifuka
Uoleva
Uiha
20°
Falcon I.
Namuka
Honga Tonga
Tanumeia
Honga Haabai
Kalefesi
Nukualofa to Haabai 120 miles
Suva to Nukualofa
420 miles
Nukualofa
TONGATABU
GROUP
Tongatabu
Eua
Auckland to Nukualofa
1,101 miles
22°
Ata
(Pylstaart I.)
175°
LON. 174° W. FROM GREENWICH.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The year was uneventful and without any important changes. No public works of any magnitude were carried out. Road-making, one of the greatest necessities in the Protectorate, was proceeded with in a leisurely manner.

There are but few openings for white labour. During at least six months of the year the climate of Tonga is not suitable for Europeans to undertake hard manual labour in.

W. TELFER CAMPBELL.

Nukualofa, Tonga,
17th October, 1911.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
681	Turks and Caicos Islands	1910
682	Falkland Islands	"
683	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
684	Bahamas	1910–1911
685	Colonial Survey Committee	"
686	Malta	"
687	Imperial Institute	1910
688	Gold Coast	"
689	Fiji	"
690	Somaliland	"
691	Hong Kong...	"
692	Nyasaland	1910–1911
693	Seychelles	1910
694	Sierra Leone	"
695	Southern Nigeria	"
696	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1910–1911
697	Swaziland	"
698	Barbados	"
699	Trinidad and Tobago	"
700	Mauritius	1910
701	Grenada	"
702	British Guiana	1910–1911
703	Jamaica	"
704	Northern Nigeria	"
705	East Africa Protectorate	"
706	British Honduras	1910

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
71	Imperial Institute	Foodstuffs.
72	Fiji	Hurricane, 1910.
73	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
74	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1906–7 and 1907–8.
75	West Indies...	Imperial Department of Agriculture.
76	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8.
77	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement Fund.
78	Weihaiwei	Census.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.

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1912.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 776.

TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.

REPORT FOR 1911-12 AND 1912-13.

(For Report for 1910, *see* No. 707.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

November, 1913.

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Map.

No. 776.

TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Office of the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific,

SIR, Suva, Fiji, 30th September, 1913.

I HAVE the honour to forward the following letter from His Britannic Majesty's Agent and Consul, Tonga, enclosing a report for the years 1911-12 and 1912-13 on the Tongan Islands Protectorate.

I have, &c.,

BICKHAM ESCOTT,
High Commissioner.

The Right Honourable
The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

His Britannic Majesty's Agency and Consulate,
Tonga,

SIR, 12th September, 1913.

I HAVE the honour to forward to Your Excellency a report on the Tongan Islands Protectorate for the years 1911-12 and 1912-13. As will be observed, the returns incorporated in the report relate in many instances to the calendar years 1911 and 1912.

2. No report appears to have been compiled for the year 1911-12, owing, doubtless, to the change which occurred in the post of Agent and Consul towards the end of that period. The present report, therefore, deals with fiscal and other transactions for each of the years 1911-12 and 1912-13, in order to preserve continuity in the record of statistics appearing in the series of annual reports relating to the Protectorate.

3. I am indebted to the Premier of Tonga (the Hon. T. Tui Vakano) and to the various Heads of Departments for the data contained in this report.

I have, &c.,

H. E. W. GRANT,
His Britannic Majesty's Agent and Consul.

His Excellency
The High Commissioner
for the Western Pacific,
Suva, Fiji.

(32378—2.) Wt 35104—688. 1125 & 90. 11/13. D & S. A 2

REPORT ON THE TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE FOR THE YEARS 1911-12 AND 1912-13.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The Kingdom of Tonga embraces the groups of islands of Tongatabu, Haabai, and Vavau, together with the outlying islands of Niuatobutabu, Tafahi, and Niuafoou, as shown on the accompanying map.

The following are the details of revenue and expenditure of the Kingdom for the financial years 1911-12 and 1912-13, beginning on the 1st of April and ending on the 31st of March:—

Revenue.

	1911-12.	1912-13.
	£	£
Taxes	12,036	11,192
Customs and Wharfage	28,232	22,653
Licences	2,010	1,756
Post Office	910	721
Rents	2,281	1,908
Fees and Fines	4,149	5,094
Interest on Investments	150	150
Incidentals	1,282	464
Totals	£51,050	£43,938

Expenditure.

	1911-12.	1912-13.
	£	£
The King	2,540	2,694
Legislature	1,130	1,968
Premier	1,389	1,630
Governors	820	481
Audit	190	824
Customs, Treasury, and Post Office	3,885	3,958
Lands	4,807	5,134
Justice	1,415	1,644
Police	3,878	4,781
Education	975	3,441
Band	268	309
Pensions	171	195
Printing Office	655	911
Government Vessels	1,631	464
Medical	2,932	3,484
Government Stores	1,018	—
Miscellaneous	1,636	709

	1911-12.	1912-13.
	£	£
" Toga ma'a Toga " Kautaha ...	8,169	—
Government Buildings	3,637	—
Works Department	993	333
Public Works Recurrent ...	2,286	1,101
Public Works Non-recurrent ...	5,586	4,436
Totals	£50,011	£38,497

In the years previous to 1911-12 interest on investments was brought to account under the head " Incidentals." The receipts under that head during 1911-12 included the sum of £250 in respect of assistance rendered to the steamship " Boveric " when stranded on the Makahaa Reef, and also the sum of £400 as an overpayment recovered, the corresponding amount being included in the item of expenditure " Toga ma'a Toga " Kautaha, £8,169.

The revenue for 1912-13 shows a general decrease as compared with that for 1911-12, consequent on the effects of the hurricane which visited the Group on the 30th January, 1912. The district of Haabai suffered most. The excess of revenue over expenditure, however, was £5,440, notwithstanding that the sum of £4,435 was spent on Public Works Extraordinary.

The following is a statement of the revenue and expenditure for the five years 1908 to 1912-13:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1908	33,592	42,142
1909	40,456	34,739
1910	44,007	42,617
1911-12	51,050	50,011
1912-13	43,938	38,497

The excess of assets over liabilities on 31st March, 1913, was £24,093.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

Comparative Statement of the total value of Imports and Exports (exclusive of specie) for the five years 1908-1912.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total Trade.
	£	£	£
1908	98,166	132,272	231,438
1909	154,870	217,155	372,025
1910	160,543	245,946	406,489
1911	182,122	240,103	422,225
1912	169,472	216,511	385,983

Value of Specie imported during the five years 1908-12.

	£
1908	10,700
1909	50,093
1910	52,765
1911	40,979
1912	23,540

Table showing Values of Imports from Foreign Countries for the five years 1908-1912.

—	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
	£	£	£	£	£
Australia	34,095	51,425	44,388	52,870	50,045
New Zealand	43,992	68,305	78,160	85,635	82,826
Germany	10,483	15,591	16,678	17,466	14,743
Fiji	4,585	7,022	7,964	6,861	3,745
United States	2,482	5,852	6,809	9,649	9,861
United Kingdom	1,419	2,306	3,455	5,570	3,449
Samoa	1,041	3,858	2,103	2,549	3,186
Other Countries	69	51[illegible]	1,027	1,522	1,617
Totals	98,166	154,870	160,584	182,122	169,472

Comparative Statement of the principal articles imported during the years 1911 *and* 1912.

	1911.	1912.
	£	£
Bags	4,562	5,044
Beer, ale, and porter	1,635	2,071
Biscuits	6,919	8,529
Boats	3,441	1,648
Boots and shoes	1,614	759
Butter	1,888	1,286
Cement	1,475	467
Cigars and cigarettes	505	638
Cordage and rope	1,572	1,185
Drapery	44,129	31,719
Drugs	1,155	726
Fish, dried, preserved, and salt	6,264	6,238
Flour	6,768	10,506
Furniture	1,878	1,953
Galvanized iron	4,125	4,545
Galvanized manufactures ...	2,579	3,097
Hardware	6,464	7,090
Ironmongery	1,729	980
Leatherware, all kinds	2,257	1,709
Live stock	1,058	1,188
Machinery	1,013	1,282
Meats	18,951	15,043
Oil, kerosene	2,871	2,147
Oil, other	1,184	1,157

	1911.	1912.
	£	£
Pickles and oilstores	4,909	4,817
Produce	1,653	3,160
Soap	1,661	1,535
Spirits	1,292	1,690
Sugar	4,476	6,591
Timber, dressed	8,342	7,709
Timber, rough	5,360	4,188
Tobacco	1,429	1,394
Vehicles	4,400	4,472
Waters, aerated and mineral ...	931	1,123
Wines	381	331

Comparative Statement of the principal articles exported during the years 1911 *and* 1912.

—	1911.		1912.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£
Copra ... ... Tons	12,721	231,479	11,120	209,567
Fruit ... ... Packages	41,115	5,545	7,240	1,379
Fungus ... ... Tons	8	356	9	268
Live Stock ... ... Head	217	730	333	1,469
Whale Oil ... . Casks	68	203	59	125

Shipping.

Statement showing the nationality, number, and tonnage of foreign-going merchant vessels entered in 1911 *and* 1912.

Port.	Nationality.	1911.		1912.	
Steamers.		No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.
Nukualofa	British ...	22	48,366	14	29,060
Vavau...	„ ...	25	53,984	23	36,664
Total		47	102,350	37	65,724
Sailing Vessels.					
Nukualofa	British ...	5	695	3	447
„	American	2	1,081	—	—
Haabai	„ ...	1	398	1	683
„	Norwegian	1	799	—	—
„	German ...	—	—	1	37
Vavau...	„ ...	—	—	1	37
„	American	—	—	1	281
Total		9	2,973	7	1,485

Port.	Nationality.	1911.		1912.	
		No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.
Auxiliary Schooner.					
Nukualofa	German ...	—	—	1	37
Total Shipping entered ...		56	105,323	45	67,246

Statement showing the nationality, number, and tonnage of foreign-going merchant vessels cleared in 1911 *and* 1912.

Port.	Nationality.	1911.		1912.	
Steamers.		No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.
Nukualofa	British ...	23	58,158	18	35,505
Vavau	,, ...	24	44,193	22	30,260
Total		47	102,351	40	65,765
Sailing Vessels.					
Nukualofa	British ...	4	596	3	447
Haabai	American	1	398	1	683
,, ...	Norwegian	—	—	1	799
Vavau	British ...	1	99	1	149
,, ...	American	—	—	1	281
Total		6	1,093	7	2,359
Auxiliary Schooner.					
Nukualofa	German ...	—	—	1	37
Total Shipping cleared ...		53	103,444	48	68,161

Agriculture and Industries.—The islands of Tongatabu and Haabai were visited by a severe gale on the 9th and 10th of February, 1913, which caused considerable damage to the coco-nut trees. As a result, the copra crop—the mainstay of local prosperity—is hardly likely to be in a flourishing condition before the year 1914 is well advanced, and then only if the islands should be free from a further calamity during the next hurricane season.

It is an additional misfortune that the citrus crops have for some time past been affected by an insect pest known as the "fruit fly." The soil of the several islands of the group is eminently suited for orange culture, and there appears to be no reason why this fruit, under careful management, should not become an important subsidiary industry. At present, however,

owing to the presence of the pest mentioned, it is practically excluded from the Australian and New Zealand markets.

The banana is another industry which is capable of development, and is one to which particular attention is being paid by the Agricultural Adviser (Mr. W. B. Rawson). Several thousand plants of the *Gros Michel* variety were introduced from Fiji in the early part of the present year. They have been established at the Agricultural Station at Vaikeli, about four miles from Nukualofa, and promise good results. The distribution of plants from these nurseries should in course of time exercise a marked influence on the improvement of the cultivation of the fruit.

Land.—Under the constitution of Tonga, all land is the property of the King, who may at pleasure grant one or more hereditary estates to the nobles and titular chiefs or matabules. The sale of land is prohibited. Foreigners can obtain leaseholds through the Minister of Lands. The rental for agricultural areas varies from 4*s.* to 6*s.* an acre. Labour is scarce.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Thirty-five laws were passed by the Legislative Assembly of Tonga during the session of 1912. Most of these amended previous legislation, but several new laws were placed on the Statute Book, including the Companies Act, 1912, and a law to prohibit mortgages or liens on growing crops.

IV.—EDUCATION.

During a part of the year 1910-11, all the Government schools, with the exception of the Tonga College, were closed and the work of primary education was thrown on the missions. The expenditure on education during that period was £975. As the missions did not take up the work laid down in 1910, it was found necessary to re-open the schools in 1912-13, and the expenditure for that year amounted to £3,441.

On the 31st of December, 1912, there were 54 Government and 12 Roman Catholic Schools, with an attendance roll of 4,043, as follows:—

Government Schools	3,466
Roman Catholic (aided)	577
Total	4,043

Seventy-three teachers were employed, 59 in the Government schools and 14 in the Roman Catholic.

At the close of 1912, 85 students were on the attendance roll of Tonga College, and the teaching staff consisted of one European and five native masters. On 30th August, 1913, the number on the roll was increased to 155, and two additional European teachers were employed.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Hospitals.

A hospital, in charge of a European medical practitioner, is established in each of the Islands of Tongatabu, Haabai, and Vavau. Tongans receive free treatment.

There is a dispensary at Mua (Tongatabu) and another in the island of Niuafoou. Each is in charge of a native medical student.

It is the intention of the Government to open other dispensaries in the near future, and native students are being trained at the hospitals for the purpose of acting as dispensers.

The medical officers pay periodical visits to the villages and to outlying islands. Owing to the state of the roads it is not practicable for them to visit many villages during the rainy season.

The missionaries render useful service in treating minor ailments and advising patients when it is necessary to seek medical advice.

Gaols.

There are ten gaols—three at Nukualofa (one for males, and two for females); one at Haabai (general); three at Vavau (one for males and two for females); and one (general) at each of the islands of Eua, Niuafoou, and Niuatobutabu.

VI.—JUDICIAL.

Police Courts.

During 1912, the Police Courts dealt with 10,256 criminal cases (under which head are included all petty offences, quasi-criminal cases, and offences against town regulations), as against 9,750 in 1911.

The Police prosecuted in 3,533 cases in 1911, and in 2,867 in 1912. The number of acquittals in the former year was 648, and in the latter 480. The offences for the most part comprised breaches of town regulations, but they also included larceny, the drinking of intoxicating liquor, cruelty to animals, prison-breaking, killing fish with explosive, offences against the agricultural laws, laziness, and breaking the sabbath.

The number of civil cases heard in the Police Courts in 1912 was 742, showing a decrease of 621, as compared with the number heard in 1911, which was 1,363.

There were few appeals to the Supreme Court from the decisions of the Magistrates.

SUPREME COURT.

The following return shows the number and the nature of the criminal cases tried in the Supreme Court of Tonga, in the years 1911 and 1912:—

Offences.	Year. 1911.	Year. 1912.
Incest	—	1
Perjury	1	1
Grievous bodily harm ...	2	4
Forgery	—	1
Slander	1	—
Rape	1	1
Larceny	2	1
Making land agreement ...	1	—
Embezzlement	2	—
Shooting with intent	—	1
Totals ...	10	10

There were three acquittals in 1911 and three in 1912.

In addition to 10 criminal, 21 civil, 104 divorce, and 31 appeal cases which came before the Supreme Court in 1912, the Court dealt with 311 applications for exemption from payment of the poll-tax, consequent on the prevailing bad crops and scarcity of copra. Of these applications, 289 were granted in whole or in part.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION.

The estimated population of Tongan subjects on 31st December, 1911, was 22,346, and at the end of 1912, 22,527, distributed as follows:—

Tongatabu and Eua	9,343
Haabai	5,966
Vavau	5,332
Niuafoou	1,139
Niuatobutabu	747
Total ...	22,527

The birth-rate for 1911 was 33·51, and for 1912, 32·76 per 1,000.

The death-rate for those years was 29·76, and 24·72 per 1,000, respectively.

In 1912, 278 marriages were registered, as against 302 in 1911. These figures include marriages between foreigners and Tongans.

The following table shows the number of births, marriages and deaths registered in the Supreme Court of Tonga during the five years, 1908-12:—

Year.	Births.	Marriages.	Deaths.
1908	796	266	570
1909	764	290	442
1910	730	322	451
1911	748	302	665
1912	738	278	557
Totals	3,776	1,458	2,685
Averages	755	291	537

Public Health.

Tonga enjoys the inestimable blessing of freedom from malaria.

Climate.

There does not appear to have been any proper record of meteorological observations in the past. Every care, however, is now being taken by the Director of Education (Mr. H. W. Gould) to secure full and accurate records in Tongatabu for the current year.

The return relating to rainfall is deemed to be so unreliable that it is not furnished. The following record of observations, however, although incomplete, may be taken to be approximately correct as showing variations in temperature and atmospheric pressure during the year 1912:—

	Temperature.		Barometer.	
	Maximum.	Minimum.	Maximum.	Minimum.
January	No records taken.			
February	87·0	68·0	29·76	29·42
March	87·0	64·5	29·74	29·44
April	85·0	62·0	29·900	29·32
May	85·0	60·0	30·62	29·64
June	84·5	52·0	30·82	29·12
July	No records taken.			
August	84·5	46·0	30·65	29·33
September	79·0	52·0	30·98	29·56
October	80·0	52·0	30·47	29·17
November	84·0	61·5	30·45	29·10
December	88·0	61·5	30·45	29·13

VIII.—POSTAL SERVICE.

The revenue of the Post Office for 1912, was £721, as against £909 in 1911.

There are no separate figures for its expenditure, which is merged in that of the Custom House, the two departments being conducted in the same offices by the one staff.

The Government pays no mail subsidies, and expends practically nothing on the local conveyance of mails.

Tonga is not in the Postal Union.

Telegraph and telephone services are, as yet, non-existent. Telegrams can only be received and sent by post viâ Auckland and Sydney, or by the "wireless" system when the steamers of the Union S.S. Company of New Zealand happen to be in the ports.

British, foreign, colonial and interinsular mails are conveyed by the steamers of the Union Company, by means of a fortnightly service between Sydney and Auckland, viâ Fiji and Samoa.

The local interinsular mail, passenger, and traffic service is also almost entirely performed by the Union Company's vessels, which call at each of the three island groups, Tongatabu, Haabai, and Vavau. Two outlying dependencies, the islands of Niuafoou and Niuatobutabu, are served, intermittently, by a trading schooner from Auckland and a small steamer from Samoa, viâ Vavau.

The only concession received by the Union Company, in return for its carriage of the mails, lies in a remission of pilotage and shipping dues.

Money order conventions exist between the Kingdom and the Commonwealth of Australia, the Dominion of New Zealand, and the Crown Colony of Fiji. No convention has been established with the United Kingdom and foreign countries; but money orders from those countries are sometimes forwarded by the Post Offices of Auckland and Sydney.

The transactions in connection with the money order system for 1911 and 1912 were as follows:—

Money Orders issued by Tonga.

Year.	On New Zealand.	On Australia.	On Fiji.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1911	7,735	4,550	88	12,373
1912	8,846	5,226	361	14,433

Money Orders drawn on Tonga.

Year.	By New Zealand.	By Australia.	By Fiji.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1911	267	189	9	465
1912	197	225	12	434

An interinsular postal note system is in process of establishment.

IX.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

It is recognised by the Government that the question of improving and extending the road system demands attention, and the matter is receiving consideration. With the exception of a few miles of metalled highway, the only means of communication on land is by natural-soil roads, which, in the rainy season, render transport both difficult and hazardous.

During the year which ended on the 31st July, 1913, considerable progress was made in the field and other work of the Survey Department, under the guidance of Mr. A. B. Wallace. In Tongatabu an area of 12,223 acres was surveyed, comprising 1,541 abis (country allotments for growing foodstuffs, &c.). This work included the surveying and pegging of both old and new roads, and was carried out by three surveyors, each of whom was assisted by six labourers. The approximate cost of the survey was 3*s*. 6*d*. an acre, which may be deemed to be satisfactory when it is considered that the various sections constituted irregular polygons with an average area of less than eight acres.

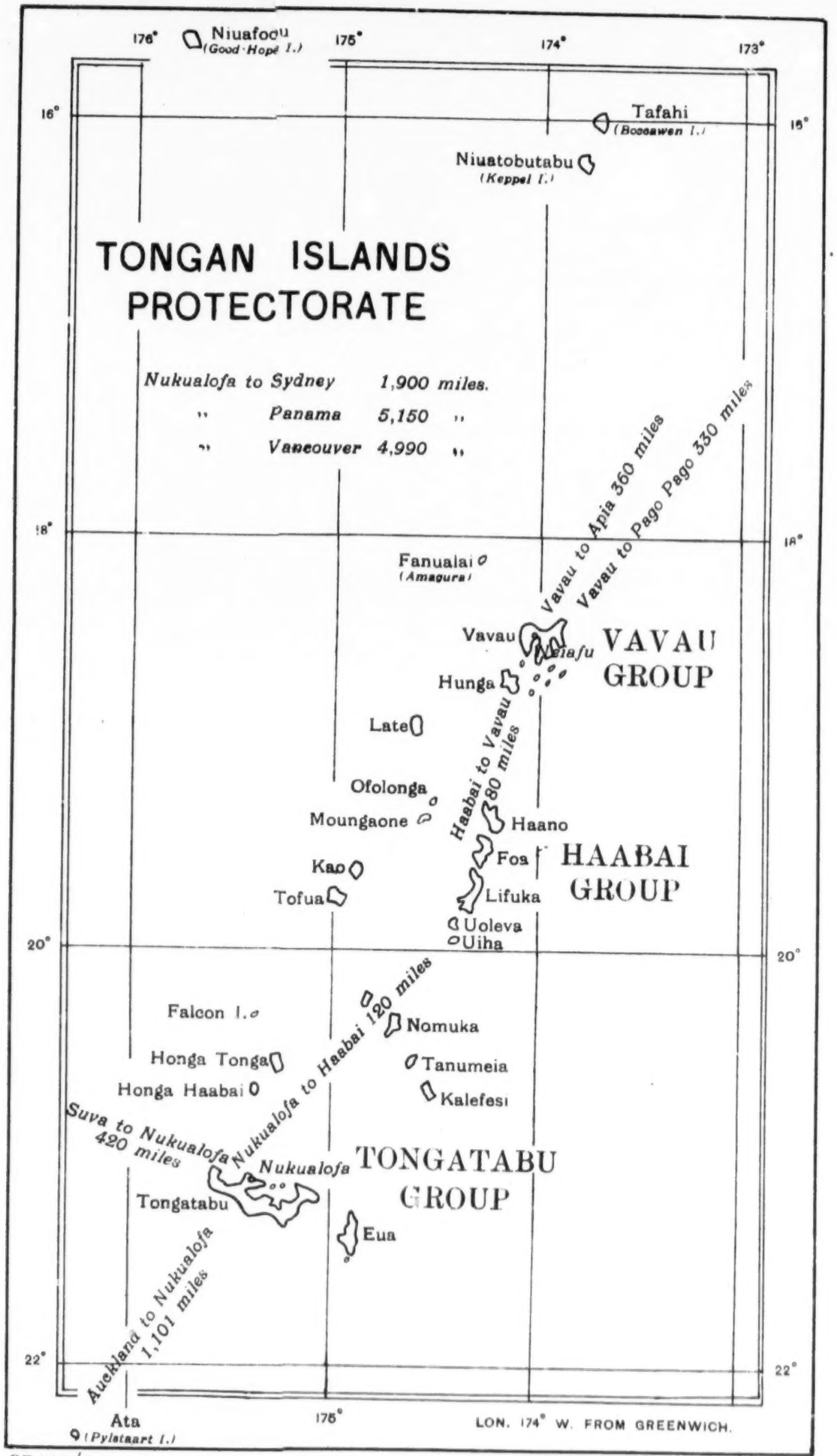
A Resident Surveyor was appointed to Vavau, and one to Haabai in May, 1913. They are at present engaged in surveying the main roads preliminary to undertaking the delimitation of the town and country sections.

Duplicates are made of all plans, and the second copy is placed in the strong room of the Treasury, to provide against loss of work in case of fire or accident to the originals.

With an improved road system, and the settlement of the boundaries of agricultural and other lands, Tonga will have made a distinct advance on the path of progress.

H. E. W. Grant,
His Britannic Majesty's Agent and Consul.

Nukualofa, Tonga,
12th September, 1913.



37459/13.

Ordnance Survey, Southampton, 1913.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
742	Grenada	1911
743	Uganda	1911–1912
744	Mauritius	1911
745	Trinidad and Tobago	1911–1912
746	British Guiana	"
747	St. Vincent	"
748	Barbados	"
749	Leeward Islands	"
750	Straits Settlements	1911
751	East Africa Protectorate	1911–1912
752	St. Lucia	"
753	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1911
754	Cayman Islands (Jamaica)	1911–1912
755	Gibraltar	1912
756	St. Helena	"
757	Weihaiwei	"
758	Ceylon	1911–1912
759	Sierra Leone	1912
760	Seychelles	"
761	Somaliland	1912–1913
762	Hong Kong	1912
763	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
764	Falkland Islands	"
765	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
766	Bahamas	"
767	Gambia	"
768	Fiji	"
769	Basutoland	1912–1913
770	Gold Coast	1912
771	Ashanti	"
772	Nyasaland	1912–1913
773	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
774	British Solomon Islands	"
775	Colonial Survey Committee	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
75	West Indies	Imperial Department of Agriculture.
76	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8.
77	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement Fund.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.

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1913.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 829.

TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.

REPORT FOR 1913-14.

(For Report for 1912-13 see No. 776.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
February, 1915.

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No. 829.

TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Office of the High Commissioner for the
Western Pacific,
Suva, Fiji, 23nd October, 1914.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward the following interesting report by Mr. H. E. W. Grant, C.M.G., H.B.M.'s Agent and Consul, on the Tongan Islands Protectorate for the financial year ended the 31st March, 1914.

2. The effect of the hurricane in the early part of 1913 is seen, principally, in the decrease by no less than £10,671 in receipts from Customs compared with the receipts for 1912–13. Taxes show an increase, whilst the falling off in revenue under other heads is comparatively small. Further increase in the revenue of Tonga depends mainly on the expansion of its agricultural products, to which it is hoped that cotton will be added before long. The climate and soil of many parts of the group are particularly well adapted for the establishment of a successful cotton industry.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient, humble servant,
BICKHAM ESCOTT,
High Commissioner.

The Right Honourable
The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

H.B.M.'s Agency and Consulate,
Tonga,
17th September, 1914.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward herewith a report on the Tongan Islands Protectorate for the year 1913–14.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
H. E. W. GRANT,
H.B.M.'s Agent and Consul.

His Excellency,
The High Commissioner
for the Western Pacific,
Suva, Fiji.

(C118) Wt.36076/850. 1125 & 90. 2.15. B.&F..Ltd. Gp.11 2.

REPORT ON THE TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE FOR THE YEAR 1913–14.

The Kingdom of Tonga embraces the groups of islands of Tongatabu, Haabai, and Vavau, together with the outlying islands of Niuatobutabu, Tafahi, and Niuafoou, as shown on the accompanying map.

The islands were discovered by Tasman in 1643. They were visited by Captain Cook on his second voyage in 1773, and again on his third voyage in 1777, when, on account of the disposition of the natives, he named the group the Friendly Islands.

The seat of government is at Nukualofa in Tongatabu.

I.—FINANCIAL.

General Revenue and Expenditure for the years 1912–13 and 1913–14.

Revenue.

	1912–13.	1913–14.
	£	£
Taxes	11,192	11,283
Customs	20,809	10,138
Port and Wharfage	1,844	1,059
Licences and Internal Revenue	3,300	3,044
Fees of Court or Office and Payments for Specific Services	3,551	2,953
Post Office	721	727
Rents and Interest	2,058	2,901
Miscellaneous	463	384
Totals	£43,938	£32,489

Expenditure.

	1912–13.	1913–14.
	£	£
The King	2,694	2,474
Legislative	1,968	929
Premier	1,630	1,840
Governors	481	542
Audit	824	1,032
Treasury	841	859
Customs and Post Office	3,117	2,446
Lands	5,134	5,099
Justice	1,644	1,727
Police	4,784	4,190
Education	3,441	4,357
Band	309	378
Pensions	195	217
Printing Office	911	940
Government Vessels	464	1,067
Medical	3,484	3,589
Miscellaneous	709	777
Works Department	333	370
Public Works Recurrent	1,101	724
Public Works Non-recurrent	4,436	5,544
Totals	£38,497	39,103

As indicated by the amount of revenue brought to account, which was less by £5,102 than the estimate, and £9,787 below the average receipts for the previous four years, the year 1913 was one of acute commercial depression. The production of copra is the pivot on which the prosperity of the kingdom revolves, and the export of that commodity, owing to the damage done to the plantations by the hurricane in the early part of the year, dropped from 11,120 tons in 1912 to 3,426 tons in 1913. This reverse in fortune was borne with remarkable equanimity by those chiefly affected. The cultivators of the soil accepted the situation and showed increased energy in producing ground provisions—yams, sweet potatoes, and taro—for local consumption, while those engaged in fishing pursuits were unusually active.

In view of the falling revenue a strict economy was exercised in regard to expenditure consistent with conducting the government with efficiency. Although the sums provided under several heads proved to be inadequate, the total expenditure on recurrent services was less by £1,658 than the estimate.

A relatively large sum, £5,544, was expended on public works of a non-recurrent nature, but of this amount the sum of £2,810 was spent in procuring the necessary plant and in making a beginning in the long-designed scheme of metalling those arterial roads in Tongatabu which remained in the natural soil stage.

The following is a statement of the revenue and expenditure for the five years 1909 to 1913–14 :—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1909 ..	40,456	34,739
1910 ..	44,007	42,617
1911 ..	51,050	50,011
1912–13 ..	43,938	38,497
1913–14 ..	32,489	39,103

The excess of assets over liabilities on the 31st March, 1914, was £17,479.

II.—TRADE AND AGRICULTURE.

Imports and Exports.

Comparative Statement of the total value of Imports and Exports (exclusive of specie and South Sea Island produce imported for exportation) for the five years 1909 *to* 1913 :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total Trade.
	£	£	£
1909 ..	152,870	217,155	370,025
1910 ..	160,543	245,946	406,489
1911 ..	182,122	240,103	422,225
1912 ..	169,472	216,511	385,983
1913 ..	81,044	82,321	163,365

Value of Specie imported during the five years, 1909–13 :—

	£
1909	50,093
1910	52,765
1911	40,979
1912	23,540
1913	1,700

TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE, 1913–14.

Value of South Sea Island produce imported for exportation during the five years, 1909–13 :—

	£
1909	1,541
1910	942
1911	2,045
1912	2,595
1913	594

Table showing Values of Imports from Foreign Countries for the five years, 1909–13 :—

	1909. £	1910. £	1911. £	1912. £	1913. £
Australia	51,425	44,388	52,870	50,045	20,443
New Zealand ..	68,305	78,160	85,635	82,826	41,718
Germany	15,591	16,678	17,466	14,743	9,585
Fiji	7,022	7,964	6,861	3,745	1,791
United States ..	5,852	6,809	9,649	9,861	4,184
United Kingdom ..	2,306	3,455	5,570	3,449	1,137
Samoa	3,858	2,103	2,549	3,186	1,466
Other Countries ..	511	1,027	1,522	1,617	729
Totals	154,870	160,584	182,122	169,472	81,044

Comparative Statement showing the value of Imports (exclusive of specie and South Sea Island produce imported for exportation) entered at Nukualofa, Haabai, and Vavau, during the five years, 1909–13 :—

Year.	Nukualofa.	Haabai.	Vavau.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1909	73,870	38,940	40,060	152,870
1910	83,926	40,687	35,930	160,543
1911	89,085	51,197	41,840	182,122
1912	85,169	33,454	50,849	169,472
1913	42,773	14,265	24,006	81,044
Totals	374,823	178,543	192,685	746,051
Averages ..	74,965	35,708	38,537	149,210

Comparative Statement of the principal articles imported during the years 1912 *and* 1913 :—

	1912	1913
	£	£
Bacon and ham	673	566
Bags	5,044	1,227
Beer, ale, and porter	2,071	858
Biscuits	8,529	3,214
Boats	1,648	569
Boots and shoes	759	413
Butter	1,286	1,164
Cement	467	447
Cigars and cigarettes	638	330
Cordage and rope	1,185	966
Doors and sashes	3,143	1,097
Drapery	31,719	14,017
Drugs	726	858
Fish, dried, preserved, and salt ..	6,238	3,935
Flour	10,506	6,127
Furniture	1,953	985
Galvanized manufactures	3,097	1,514
Hardware	7,090	3,412
Ironmongery	980	571
Leatherware, all kinds	1,709	329
Live Stock	1,188	405
Machinery	1,282	1,170
Meats	15,043	9,862
Oil, Kerosene	2,147	2,256
Oil, other	1,157	1,073
Paints and putty	1,083	803
Pickles and oil-stores	4,817	3,085
Produce	3,160	1,447
Shooks	267	680
Soap	1,535	1,305
Spirits	1,690	750
Stationery	724	565
Sugar	6,591	2,987
Timber, dressed	7,709	3,135
Timber, rough	4,188	1,518
Tobacco	1,394	274
Toys and fancy goods	1,325	959
Vehicles	4,472	630
Waters, aerated and mineral ..	1,123	353
Wines	331	339

Comparative Statement of the principal articles exported during the years 1912 *and* 1913 :—

		1912.		1913.	
	Quantity.		Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			£		£
Copra	Tons	11,120	209,567	3,426	72,480
Candlenuts	Tons	17	172	309	3,324
Fruit	Cases	7,240	1,379	10,628	2,007
Fungus	Tons	9	268	31	1,093
Live Stock	Head	333	1,469	175	920
Whale Oil	Casks	59	125	142	400

Comparative Statement showing the value of exports from Nukualofa, Haabai, and Vavau, during the five years 1909–13 :—

Year.	Nukualofa.	Haabai.	Vavau.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1909	73,116	69,798	74,241	217,155
1910	94,177	87,465	64,304	245,946
1911	74,108	81,505	84,490	240,103
1912	69,388	63,441	83,682	216,511
1913	29,338	15,997	36,986	82,321
Totals	340,127	318,206	343,703	1,002,036
Averages	68,025	63,641	68,741	200,407

Shipping.

Statement showing the nationality, number, and tonnage of foreign-going merchant vessels entered in 1912 *and* 1913 :—

Port.	Nationality.	1912.		1913.	
		No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.
Steamers—					
Nukualofa ..	British	14	29,060	13	29,069
Vavau	,,	23	36,664	15	28,316
Total		37	65,724	28	57,385
Sailing Vessels—					
Nukualofa ..	British	3	447	3	624
,, ..	American	—	—	1	683
Haabai	,,	1	683	—	—
,, ...	German	1	37	—	—
Vavau	,,	1	37	—	—
,, ...	American	1	281	—	—
Total		7	1,485	4	1,307
Auxiliary Schooner—					
Nukualofa ..	German	1	37	—	—
Total shipping entered		45	67,246	32	58,692

Statement showing the nationality, number, and tonnage of foreign-going merchant vessels cleared in 1912 *and* 1913 :—

Port.	Nationality.	1912.		1913.	
		No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.
Steamers—					
Nukualofa ..	British	18	35,505	14	29,148
Vavau	,,	22	30,260	14	27,616
Total		40	65,765	28	56,764
Sailing Vessels—					
Nukualofa ..	British	3	447	3	624
Haabai.. ..	American	1	683	—	—
,, ...	Norwegian	1	799	—	—
Vavau	British	1	149	—	—
,, ...	American	1	281	—	—
Total		7	2,359	3	624
Auxiliary Schooner—					
Nukualofa ..	German	1	37	—	—
Total shipping cleared		48	68,161	31	57,388

AGRICULTURE.

The coconut plantations have made a good recovery from the damage done to them by the hurricane in February, 1913, and the trees are bearing heavily.

During the year 8,000 plants of the *Gros Michel* variety of banana were introduced from Fiji and established at the Agricultural Station at Vaikeli. The experiment promises well, the trees being of vigorous growth. Shoots from the parent stock have been available for distribution for some time past, and are gradually finding their way to the plantations.

Attention is also being paid at Vaikeli to the cultivation of several new varieties of the pineapple.

An attempt to establish the grape has not so far met with success.

III.—LEGISLATION.

During 1913, 14 Ordinances were passed, two of which were not in force at the end of the year.

By Ordinance No. 1 of 1913 every male Tongan subject is required to plant at least 200 coconuts on his tax allotment within one year from the date of the registration of the allotment in his name.

The Education Ordinance, 1913, repealed all former laws relating to the schools, and placed education on a new and systematised basis.

An Ordinance to provide for the establishment of a Land Commission to inquire into and finally settle and quiet all land claims was passed— but has not yet been brought into operation.

IV.—EDUCATION.

Primary Schools.

During the year 1913 there were three types of primary schools within the kingdom, namely:—(a) Public Primary Schools, entirely under the control of the Education Department; (b) schools maintained by the Roman Catholic Mission, assisted by a Government grant; and (c) schools conducted at the private expense of the various Missions.

At the end of the year there were 55 Public Primary Schools in operation distributed as follows:—

Tongatabu	20
Haabai	20
Vavau	10
Niuafoou	3
Niuatobutabu	2
Total	55

The number of pupils on the roll at the end of 1913 was 2,730. The average attendance for the year was 1,972. Twenty-one schools were classed as efficient.

Of the 14 State-aided Primary Schools under the control of the Roman Catholic Mission, five were considered to be efficient. The returns in respect of the number of pupils on the roll and the average attendance are incomplete.

Private Primary Schools are conducted by the Free Church of Tonga, the Roman Catholic Mission, the Wesleyan Mission, and the Mormon Mission.

High Schools.

In his Annual Report for 1913, the Director of Education (Mr. W. H. Gould) wrote as follows:—

"The only secondary institution under the control of the Education Department is Tonga College. The number on the roll at the end of 1912 was 85. At the end of 1913 the number had increased to 157.

"The only institutions other than Tonga College that provide anything in the nature of a secondary education are Tubou College

and Maofaga College, which are under the control of the Wesleyan and Roman Catholic Missions respectively. The total number of students attending the different High Schools at the end of 1913 was :—

Tonga College	157
Tubou College	118
Maofaga College	58
Total	333 "

During the year the curriculum of Tonga College underwent a thorough revision with the object of enabling students to obtain an education of greater practical utility than was possible under the scheme of instruction previously in force, which, while aiming at advanced attainment, fell considerably short of that ideal, without equipping the student with knowledge that would prove to be useful when the time arrived for him to undertake the management of his own affairs. To employ the words of the Director, " An attempt is now being made to give a more practical education. Practical arithmetic and English form the principal subjects, while classes are being conducted in wood work, and a beginning has been made towards placing the plantation work upon a systematic footing."

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Hospitals.

The following is an extract from a memorandum on the medical service of Tonga which has been prepared by the Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Arnold W. Izard :—

" At the three centres, Nukualofa, Haabai, and Vavau, hospitals have been established, each under a European doctor. Each hospital is a wooden building with two wards, male and female, a dispensary, operating theatre, and store-rooms. Native houses have been erected in each hospital compound for isolation cases.

" Each hospital has native medical students. Nukualofa has five, the other two four each. These boys do the work of the hospital, such as nursing, dressing surgical cases, dispensing, etc., under the personal direction of the local medical officer. These boys are paid by the Government of Tonga salaries varying from £2 a month for the junior boy to £5 a month for the head boy, according to the length of service and efficiency. These boys are also supplied with quarters, rations and clothing.

" The policy of the Department is to train these boys to fit them for appointment of dispensers in the outlying islands where there are no doctors. Already four such dispensaries have been opened at Mua, Niuafoou, Eua and Niuatobutabu. Small houses have been built for them of four rooms including a dispensary, and they are supplied with dressing and drugs. They receive a salary of £6 a month and 30*s*. a month in lieu of rations. The dispenser at Mua is the head boy of the service, and he receives £100 a year without rations.

"The Chief Medical Officer receives a salary of £500 a year, the Medical Officers at Haʻabai and Vavau £400 a year each. Each Medical Officer has the right of private practice, but all Tongan subjects, and all those who pay taxes, are treated at the public expense.

"A fourth Medical Officer has recently been appointed to Nukualofa, at a salary of £400 a year, to assist the Chief Medical Officer in his duties and to allow him to visit the outlying islands. All the Medical Officers are supplied with furnished quarters.

"In addition to treating the natives they carry out the duties appertaining to the offices both of Health Officer and Port Health Officer. As Tonga is within easy reach both of New Zealand and Australia, quarantine regulations are strictly carried out."

Gaols.

There are ten gaols—three at Nukualofa (one for males and two for females); one at Haabai (general); three at Vavau (one for males and two for females); and one (general) at each of the islands of Eua, Niuafoou, and Niuatobutabu.

VI.—JUDICIAL.

Police Courts.

The kingdom is divided into five Magisterial Districts, namely, Tongatabu and Eua, Haabai, Vavau, Niuafoou, and Niuatobutabu.

The number of criminal cases tried in the Police Courts during the year 1913 was 14,362, as against 10,256 in 1912, showing an increase of 4,106, distributed as follows:—

Tongatabu and Eua	1,302
Haabai	2,085
Vavau	590
Niuafoou	132
	4,109
Niuatobutabu, decrease	3
Total increase	4,106

It is not to be inferred from the foregoing that there has been a marked increase in crime. Many of the offences consisted of breaches of the taxation, sanitary, and health laws, all of which are grouped under the head of criminal jurisdiction.

The prosecution failed in 1,846 cases, and 373 cases were pending on the 31st December, 1913.

The number of civil cases heard in 1913 was 638, as against 742 in 1912. Judgment was given for the plaintiff in 548 cases, and for the defendant in 76. On the 31st December, 1913, 14 cases were pending.

There were few appeals to the Supreme Court from the decisions of the Magistrates.

Supreme Court.

The following is a return of the criminal cases which were tried in the Supreme Court of Tonga during the year 1913 :—

Offences.	No. of cases.
Larceny	1
Grievous hurt	1
Perjury	4
Defrauding post office	1
Forgery	1
Attempted stealing of vessel	1
House-breaking..	1
Defamation	2
Embezzlement	1
Total	13

There were three acquittals and one case was pending at the end of the year.

In addition to 13 criminal, 4 intestacy, 33 divorce, and 17 appeal cases (11 criminal and 6 civil) which came before the Supreme Court in 1913, the Court dealt with 362 applications for exemption from payment of taxes, of which 324 were granted either in whole or in part.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.

The estimated population of Tongan subjects on the 31st December, 1913, was 22,925, showing an increase of 398 as compared with the estimated population at the close of 1912.

The birth-rate per 1,000 for 1913 was 35·89, as against 32·76 in 1912, and the death-rate 17·36, as against 24·72.

Chief Justice R. L. Skeen writes as follows on this subject :—

"The registered births for 1913 show an increase of 425 over the registered deaths. This is most satisfactory, as the average increase for the four years past has been 216, and would seem to indicate that more care is now taken than formerly in the bringing up of Tongan children, and that the services of the Medical Officers throughout the kingdom are more appreciated, and their skill far more frequently availed of than in years past."

In 1913 275 marriages were registered, as against 278 in 1912.

The following table shows the number of births, marriages, and deaths registered in the Supreme Court of Tonga during the five years, 1909–13 :—

Year.	Births.	Marriages.	Deaths.
1909 ..	764	290	442
1910 ..	730	322	451
1911 ..	748	302	665
1912 ..	738	278	557
1913 ..	823	275	398
Totals	3,803	1,467	2,513
Averages	760	293	502

As a result of a census taken in 1913 by the Free Church of Tonga, under the direction of the Rev. J. B. Watkin, the President, the following statement shows in numerical detail the population of the kingdom according to nationality, exclusive of Tongan :—

Nationality.	Tongatabu.	Haabai.	Vavau.	Niuatobutabu.	Niuafoou.	Total.
British ..	236	60	62	5	5	368
German ..	55	32	46	—	—	133
American ..	16	13	16	—	—	45
French ..	8	3	4	1	3	19
Niuean ..	121	14	—	—	2	137
Samoan ..	49	8	—	2	2	61
Fijian ..	14	13	—	—	—	27
Other ..	42	3	—	—	—	45
Totals ..	541	146	128	8	12	835

CLIMATE.

The following meteorological return has been furnished by Mr. H. W. Gould, the Principal of Tonga College :—

Records for year ending 31st December, 1913 :—

	Temperature.		Barometer.		Rainfall.
	Maximum.	Minimum.	Maximum.	Minimum.	
	Degrees.	Degrees.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.
January ..	89	60·5	30·15	29·49	11·35
February ..	89	59·5	29·98	28·29	25·02
March ..	88	64·75	29·98	29·67	8·11
April ..	89·75	62·5	29·99	29·74	7·01
May ..	89	52·5	30·1	29·75	3·81
June ..	84	51·5	29·92	29·54	5·78
July ..	79·5	55·5	30·5	29·4	7·22
August ..	79	52	30·6	29·16	1·05
September ..	80	44	30·89	29·25	18·05
October ..	89	52	30·8	29·14	1·70
November ..	89	60·5	30	29·63	4·35
December ..	84·5	65	29·88	29·63	19·56
				Total rainfall ..	113·01

Barometric readings were taken at 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. daily. A very heavy gale, practically a hurricane, blew during the night of the 9th and the morning of the 10th February. The lowest recorded reading during the hurricane was 27·84 in.

The stand on which the rain gauge was placed blew over during the hurricane and part of the rainfall was lost.

VIII.—POSTAL SERVICE.

The revenue of the Post Office for 1913 was £688 as against £721 in 1912.

There are no separate figures for its expenditure, which is merged in that of the custom-house, the two departments being conducted in the same offices by the one staff.

The Government pays no mail subsidies, and expends practically nothing on the local conveyance of mails.

Tonga is not in the Postal Union.

Telegraph and telephone services are, as yet, non-existent, but the Government of Tonga have under consideration the question of establishing a wireless telegraph station in Tongatabu and of working it in connection with the wireless telegraph service of Fiji, and possibly that of New Zealand. Telegrams can only be received and sent by post *viâ* Auckland and Sydney, or by the "wireless" system when the steamers of the Union S.S. Company of New Zealand happen to be in the ports.

British, foreign, colonial, and interinsular mails are conveyed by the steamers of the Union Company by means of a fortnightly service between Sydney and Auckland, *viâ* Fiji and Samoa.

The local interinsular mail, passenger, and traffic service is also almost entirely performed by the Union Company's vessels, which call at each of the three island groups, Tongatabu, Haabai and Vavau. Two outlying dependencies, the islands of Niuafoou and Niuatobutabu, are served, intermittently, by a trading schooner from Auckland and a small steamer from Samoa, *viâ* Vavau.

The only concession received by the Union Company in return for its carriage of the mails lies in a remission of the port pilotage and shipping dues.

Money order conventions exist between the kingdom and the Commonwealth of Australia, the Dominion of New Zealand and the Crown Colony of Fiji. No convention has been established with the United Kingdom and foreign countries, but money orders from those countries are sometimes forwarded by the Post Offices of Auckland and Sydney.

The transactions in connection with the money order system for 1913 were as follow:—

Money Orders issued by Tonga.

On New Zealand.	On Australia.	On Fiji.	Total.
£8,803	£3,670	£253	£12,726

Money Orders drawn on Tonga.

By New Zealand.	By Australia.	By Fiji.	Total.
£356	£142	£21	£519

The scheme for an interinsular postal note system, referred to in last year's report, has been abandoned in favour of the adoption of the British scheme of Imperial postal orders.

The Chief Postmaster, Mr. J. M. Masterton, is also Collector o Customs.

IX.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

No public work of any magnitude, apart from the scheme for extending the mileage of metalled roads, was undertaken during 1913, owing to want of funds; but many minor works were carried out for the purpose of maintaining Government property in a good state of repair, as well as making necessary additions and improvements. These included, in Tongatabu, repairs to the beacons, punts, wharf, goods-shed, quarantine station, cutter "Kolofoou," and various official quarters. An Aerogen gas plant was erected for the purpose of lighting the wharf, goods-shed, and custom-house. In Haabai, all Government houses were painted and the wharf was repaired. In Vavau, the Police Court was completed and the Hospital and Medical Officer's quarters were painted.

A dispensary was erected at Eua and one at Niuatobutabu.

Public works of the foregoing description are carried out under the direction of the Premier (the Hon. T. Tuivakano), assisted by a foreman of works (Mr. J. Leger).

Mr. A. B. Wallace, Chief Surveyor, reports that during the year ended the 31st March, 1914, an area of 7,597 acres, comprising 527 tax abis and 405 town abis, was surveyed in Tongatabu. In addition, about 100 subdivisions of abis into the statutory 8¼ acres were made, and many miles of small roads were surveyed and pegged. Levels and cross sections of ten miles of main road were also taken, with a view to metalling.

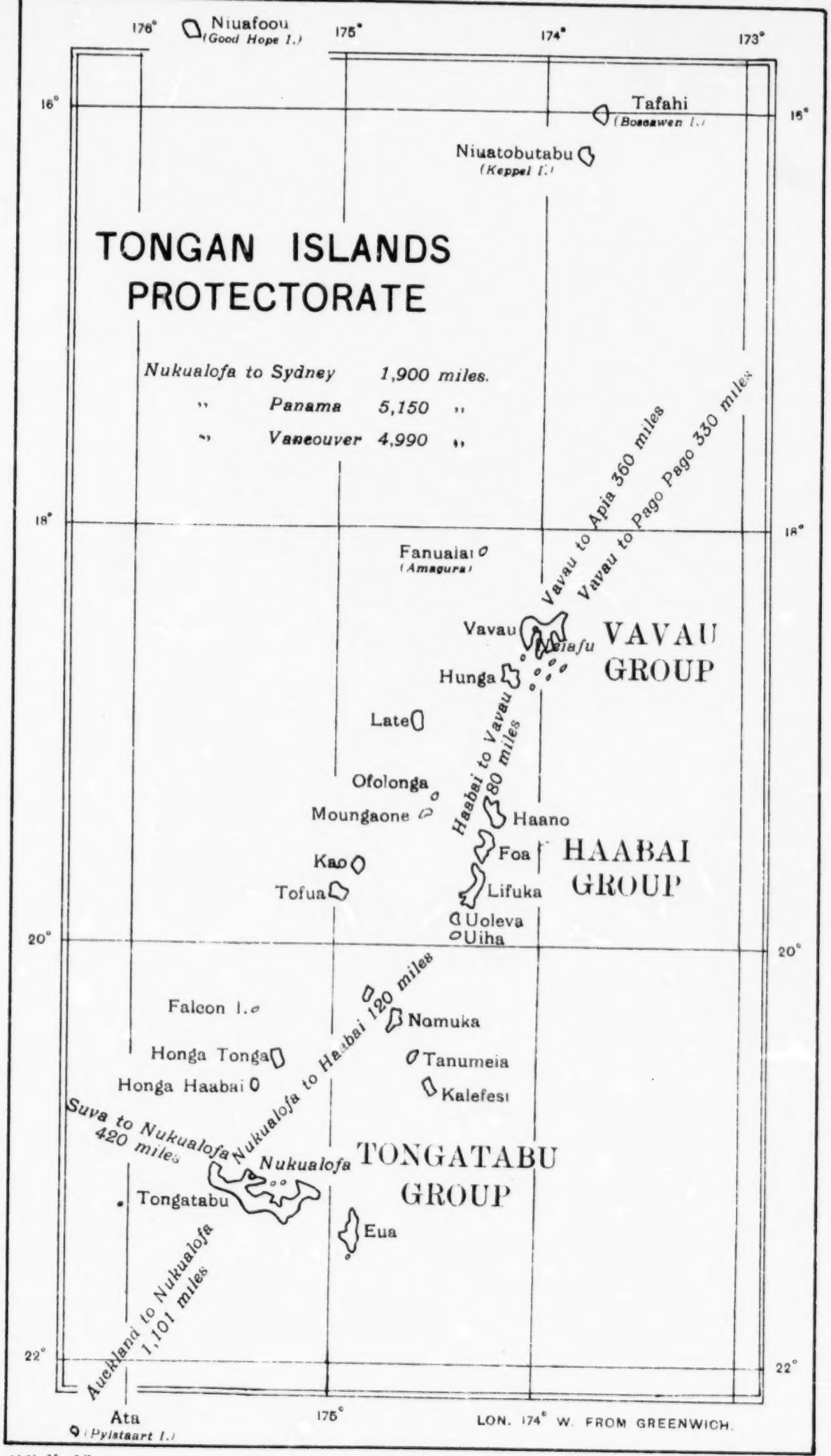
In Haabai, 77 tax abis and 419 town abis, occupying 1,100 acres, were surveyed. In addition some 43 sections, comprising 660 acres, were surveyed for leasing to Europeans.

H. E. W. GRANT,

H.B.M.'s Agent and Consul.

Nukualofa, Tonga,

17th September, 1914.



C.O. No. 53.

Ordnance Survey, Southampton, 1915.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
799	St. Helena	1913
800	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
801	Seychelles	,,
802	Ceylon	,,
803	Bermuda	,,
804	Weihaiwei	,,
805	Gambia	,,
806	Gold Coast	,,
807	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	,,
808	Sierra Leone	,,
809	Bahamas	1913–1914
810	Cayman Islands (Jamaica)	1912–1913
811	Fiji	1913
812	Ashanti	,,
813	Basutoland	1913–1914
814	Hong Kong	1913
815	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1913–1914
816	Imperial Institute	1913
817	Falkland Islands	,,
818	Malta	1913–1914
819	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
820	Jamaica	,,
821	Northern Nigeria	1913
822	Grenada	,,
823	Zanzibar	,,
824	Barbados	1913–1914
825	Southern Nigeria	1913
826	Mauritius	,,
827	British Honduras	1913
828	Colonial Survey Committee	1913–1914

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.

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1915.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 870.

TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.

REPORT FOR 1914-15.

(For Report for 1913-14 see No. 829.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
November, 1915.

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Map.

No. 870.

TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.

(For Report for 1913–14 see No. 829).

THE ACTING HIGH COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Office of the High Commissioner for the
Western Pacific.

Suva, Fiji, 14th September, 1915.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit to you the following report by Mr. H. E. W. Grant, C.M.G., Agent and Consul, Tonga, on the Tongan Islands Protectorate for the financial year ended the 31st March, 1915.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient, humble servant,
EYRE HUTSON,
Acting High Commissioner.

The Right Honourable
The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

H.B.M.'s Agency and Consulate,
Tonga,
20th August, 1915.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward herewith a report on the Tongan Islands Protectorate for the year 1914–15.

2. The comparative statements of revenue and expenditure for the years 1913–14 and 1914–15 contained in the report are for the financial years ended the 31st March, 1914, and the 31st March, 1915, respectively. The statistics relating to imports and exports, shipping, etc., are in respect of the calendar years specified in the returns.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
H. E. W. GRANT,
H.B.M.'s Agent and Consul.

His Excellency
The High Commissioner for the Western Pacific,
Suva, Fiji.

(C217) Wt.36076/850. 1125 & 90. 11.15. B.&F.,Ltd. Gp.11/2.

REPORT ON THE TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE FOR THE YEAR 1914–1915.

The Kingdom of Tonga embraces the groups of islands of Tongatabu, Haabai, and Vavau, together with the outlying islands of Niuatobutabu, Tafahi, and Niuafoou.

The main group was discovered by Tasman in 1643.

Niuatobutabu and Tafahi were named Keppel and Boscawen respectively by Wallis in 1767.

Niuafoou was discovered by Captain Edwards in H.M.S. "Pandora" on the 3rd August, 1791, and named by him Proby Island. It is considered to be the Good Hope Island of Schouten.

Captain Cook visited the islands on his second voyage in 1773 and again on his third voyage in 1777. On account of the disposition of the natives he named the group the Friendly Islands.

The seat of government is at Nukualofa in Tongatabu.

I.—FINANCIAL.

General Revenue and Expenditure for the years 1913–14 and 1914–15.

Revenue.

1913–14.		1914–15.
£32,489	.....	£36,114

Expenditure.

1913–14.		1914–15.
£39,103	.....	£36,414

The revenue was less than the estimate by £5,087, but in excess of that for 1913–14 by £3,625. Receipts under the head of Customs were short of the estimate by £5,611, but those on account of taxes were £1,660 in excess.

The equilibrium between revenue and expenditure was well maintained, notwithstanding that the sum of £5,559 was spent on public works of a non-recurrent nature.

The following is a statement of the revenue and expenditure for the five years 1910 to 1914–15 :—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1910 ..	44,007	.. 42,617
1911 ..	51,050	.. 50,011
1912–13 ..	43,938	.. 38,497
1913–14 ..	32,489	.. 39,103
1914–15 ..	36,114	.. 36,414

The excess of assets over liabilities on the 31st March, 1915, was £17,180.

II.—TRADE AND AGRICULTURE.

Imports and Exports.

Comparative Statement of the total value of Imports and Exports (exclusive of specie and South Sea Island produce imported for exportation) for the five years 1910 *to* 1914 :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total Trade.
	£	£	£
1910 ..	160,543	245,946	406,489
1911 ..	182,122	240,103	422,225
1912 ..	169,472	216,511	385,983
1913 ..	81,044	82,321	163,365
1914 ..	87,702	73,036	160,738

Shipping.

Total shipping entered :—1913 : Number of vessels, 32 ; tonnage, 58,692. 1914 : Number of vessels, 53 ; tonnage, 57,474.

Total shipping cleared :—1913 : Number of vessels, 31 ; tonnage, 57,388. 1914 : Number of vessels, 30 ; tonnage, 54,099.

Agriculture.

The prosperity of Tonga rests at present almost entirely on the copra industry. The value of the fruit exported in 1914 was only £442, as against £9,605 in 1910. Owing to the presence of an insect pest known as the "fruit fly," the citrus fruits have been excluded for some time past from the Australian and New Zealand markets, and the interruption of a direct steamship service with Auckland has practically annihilated the trade in bananas.

Beyond the cultivation of ground provisions—mainly yams, taro, and sweet potatoes—for home consumption, the energy of both the natives and the European settlers during the year under review was

devoted chiefly to the development of the coconut plantations. There is plenty of room, however, for subsidiary products other than oranges, lemons, and bananas, and the importance of establishing those for which the soil and climate of the group may be suitable is not escaping the attention of the Tongan Government. The matter is one which has been brought into specal prominence during the last few years owing to the number of occasions on which these islands have been visited by gales of sufficient force to damage severely the coconut growing areas by blowing unripe nuts from the trees. The recovery of the plantations, to which reference was made in the report for 1913–14, received a considerable set back by hurricane weather in October and December, 1914, and in March, 1915.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Fourteen Ordinances were passed during the year 1914.

The most important legislative achievement was the reform of the Tongan Parliament. Under the Constitution the Legislative Assembly consisted of all the nobles of the kingdom, an equal number of representatives of the people, and the ministers of the Crown. The membership on this basis comprised about seventy, and, in the ordinary course, there was only one session in every three years. At a meeting of the Assembly on the 17th December, 1914, specially convoked, the King of Tonga, in a convincing address from the throne, proposed for consideration that the Assembly should be composed of seven nobles elected by their peers, seven elective representatives of the people, and the ministers of the Crown, numbering seven, or twenty-one members in all, and that the Assembly should meet annually. The proposed reform was agreed to practically unanimously. There can be little question that the substitution of a thoroughly representative legislative body of manageable dimensions, meeting annually, in the place of the former somewhat unwieldy Assembly, meeting once only every three years, will mark an epoch in Tongan history and go far in advancing the good government of the Island Kingdom.

IV.—EDUCATION.

Primary Schools.

At the end of 1914 there were 57 public primary schools in operation, as against 55 at the close of 1913.

The number of pupils on the roll was 2,780, showing an increase of 54 as compared with the roll for 1913. Regularity in attendance was seriously affected by an epidemic of whooping-cough.

Fifty-three schools were examined during the year. Of these, 15 were classified as good, 23 as satisfactory, 5 as weak, and 10 as very weak.

In view of the dearth of efficient teachers, special courses in "Teaching" have been introduced into the curriculum of Tonga College.

There are now no State-aided schools in the kingdom.

Tonga College.

In a report on the general condition of the Government Schools for the year 1914, Mr. R. N. Burns, the Chief Assistant Master, Tonga College, who is at present in charge of the College, writes as follows:—

"The roll number at Tonga College at the end of 1913 was 157. During the year 71 of these left and 42 new students were admitted, making the present roll number 128. This decrease in attendance must not be regarded as unsatisfactory, as it is due to the departure of aged students whose inability to accommodate themselves to the new conditions at the College made their removal essential. The new students admitted were youths of an average age of 16 years 8 months. This type makes the most satisfactory scholar. In making new regulations for the College due consideration has been given to the advisability of establishing a vernacular course for the older type of student, thus giving the English masters greater opportunity for the display of their abilities.

"Since the beginning of the year most of the teaching has been conducted in English. The progress of the students in all grades has been very gratifying. It is possible to converse in the European language with quite 25 per cent. of the boys, and in the higher class divisions a cult for reading has been developed with considerable success. At the annual examination 80 per cent. of the students qualified for promotion.

"Considerable attention has been paid to agriculture. An area of 33 acres at Mata-ki-Eua has been cleared and is under systematic cultivation. The plantation is divided into two sections, the staple crops of yams and kumalas occupying each half, while we rotate pines and tapioca acre by acre as the main crops are removed. Copra has not been neglected, and we have planted some 1,700 coconut trees. Bananas are also represented to the extent of 1,200 palms. Next year it is hoped to undertake experimental work, which will be co-related with theory in the class room.

"The future of the College appears to me to be particularly bright. The institution is thoroughly well organised, and there is gradually entering into the lives of the boys a certain appreciation for study. The masters are keen on their work and interested in all matters pertaining to the welfare of the College. With such a spirit existing between masters and students nothing but success can result from the work of the institution."

The Tongan is an apt pupil. The case of Inoke Sateki may be cited as an interesting illustration of that fact. During a visit to the Protectorate in the latter part of 1911, High Commissioner Sir Francis May was struck by the excellent draughtsmanship of the youth in question, who was then a student at the Tonga College. Sateki was subsequently offered the post of a supernumerary surveyor in the Lands Department of Fiji, which he accepted, and entered on his duties in March, 1912. The Commissioner of Lands, Fiji, when reporting recently on Sateki's work, stated that he was by far the best draughtsman the Department had ever trained. He added that not only was he a fine draughtsman, but that he was making good progress towards becoming a surveyor, and only required field practice. Without any training in mathematics, he had learned to use a logarithmic table, to calculate co-ordinates, take out areas by double longitudes, obtain azimuth, time, and latitude from sun observations, and solve the usual problems in trigonometry.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Hospitals.

A hospital, in charge of a European doctor, is maintained in each of the islands of Tongatabu, Haabai, and Vavau. Tongan subjects receive free medical treatment.

Each hospital is provided with male and female wards, a dispensary, an operating theatre, and store-rooms. Native houses have been erected in the hospital compounds for isolation cases.

Native medical students are trained at the hospitals for the purpose of serving as dispensers in the outlying islands and in districts not easily accessible to the Medical Officers. Dispensaries have been established at Mua (in Tongatabu), and in the islands of Eua, Niuafoou, and Niuatobutabu.

Gaols.

There are ten gaols—three at Nukualofa (one for males and two for females); one at Haabai (general); three at Vavau (one for males and two for females); and one (general) at each of the islands of Eua Niuafoou, and Niuatobutabu.

VI.—JUDICIAL.

Police Courts.

The kingdom of Tonga is divided into five magisterial districts, namely, Tongatabu and Eua, Haabai, Vavau, Niuafoou, and Niuatobutabu.

The number of criminal cases tried in the Police Courts during the year 1914 was 14,200, as against 14,362 in 1913. This large number does not indicate that there has been a great amount of crime. It is due to the fact that the police have maintained their accustomed activity in prosecuting for breaches of the taxation laws and offences against the sanitary and health laws, all of which are grouped under the head of criminal cases.

The prosecution failed in 1,769 cases, and 404 cases were pending on the 31st December, 1914.

The number of civil cases heard in 1914 was 567. Judgment was given for the plaintiff in 484 cases, and for the defendant in 68. On the 31st December, 1914, 15 cases were pending.

Supreme Court.

Fourteen criminal cases were tried in the Supreme Court of Tonga in the year 1914, with six acquittals.

In addition to the criminal cases which came before the Supreme Court in 1914 there were 18 civil, 52 divorce, and 11 appeal (7 criminal and 4 civil) cases. The Court also dealt with 525 applications for exemption from payment of taxes, of which 462 were granted either in whole or in part.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The estimated population of Tongan subjects on the 31st December, 1914, was 23,121, showing an increase of 169 as compared with the estimated population at the close of 1913.

The birth-rate per 1,000 for 1914 was 34·60, as against 35·85 in 1913, and the death-rate 27·29, as against 17·34.

The following table shows the number of births, marriages, and deaths registered in the Supreme Court of Tonga during the five years 1910–14:—

Year.		Births.	Marriages.	Deaths.
1910	..	730	322	451
1911	..	748	302	665
1912	..	738	278	557
1913	..	823	275	398
1914	..	800	222	631
	Totals	3,839	1,399	2,702
	Averages	767	279	540

Public Health.

A matter which is causing grave concern and engaging the serious attention of the Tongan Government and of the Medical Department is the rapid growth of tuberculosis throughout the kingdom.

The Chief Medical Officer, Dr. H. M. Cowan, has opened in Nukualofa an educational campaign which has for its object the bringing home to the people the insidious nature of the disease, the way in which it can be communicated, and the measures to be adopted for arresting the spread of infection. Similar steps were undertaken by Dr. Cowan in Haabai when he occupied the post of Medical Officer of that district.

It is proposed to establish classes for the instruction of the native clergy in order that they may be able to take up the matter in connection with their pastoral work. The services of those engaged in teaching in the schools will also be enlisted. In this way the people will be gradually familiarised with the gravity of the situation, with the result, it is hoped, that they will be prepared to co-operate readily with the Medical Department in coping with it.

Dr. Cowan has already addressed large and representative audiences on this vital question with encouraging results.

Climate.

The maximum temperature for the year recorded at Tonga College, Nukualofa, was 92·5 degrees, in January, and the minimum 40 degrees, in June and August.

The total rainfall was 97·36 inches.

VIII.—POSTAL SERVICE.

The revenue of the Post Office for 1914 was £640 as against £688 for 1913.

Prior to the outbreak of the European war the revenue for 1914 promised to be well in excess of that for the previous year; but the reduction of the steamship itinerary, the cessation of the ordinary islands' tourist traffic, and the postal restrictions which followed the declaration of hostilities reacted most unfavourably on the receipts of the Department.

Expenditure on account of the Post Office is merged in that of the Custom-house, the two departments being conducted in the same offices by the one staff.

The Government pays no mail subsidies, and expends practically nothing on the local conveyance of mails.

Tonga is not in the Postal Union.

Telegraph and telephone services are, as yet, non-existent, but the Government of Tonga have decided to establish a wireless telegraph station in Tongatabu and to work it in connection with the wireless service of Fiji.

Telegrams at present can only be received and sent by post viâ Auckland and Sydney, or by "wireless" when a steamer of the Union S.S. Company of New Zealand happens to be in port. The helplessness of the kingdom in the absence of any means of telegraphic communication was never more clearly demonstrated than immediately after the outbreak of war, when, for a period of nearly two months, none of the Company's steamers called at Tonga. During that time, with the exception of a few days in the early part of September, when one of the ships of the Australian squadron paid a flying visit to Vavau and Nukualofa, the group was completely isolated.

Prior to August, 1914, British, foreign, colonial, and interinsular mails were conveyed by steamers of the Union Company by means of a fortnightly service between Sydney and Auckland, viâ Fiji and Samoa. Since then a four-weekly service only has been the rule, the New Zealand Government having requisitioned several of the Company's vessels. A steamer now leaves Auckland once every four weeks for Nukualofa, calling at Suva, Fiji, *en route*, and returning viâ Haabai, Vavau, Samoa (Apia), and Fiji (Levuka and Suva) to Auckland. The transhipment of goods and mails from Sydney takes place generally at Suva. Though presumably unavoidable, this curtailment of the service, involving as it does the disappearance of direct communication with New Zealand, has dealt a severe blow to Tonga.

The transactions in connection with the money order system for 1914 were as follow:—

	Total.
Money orders issued by Tonga	£8,997
Money orders drawn on Tonga	£223

As the figures for 1913 were £12,726 and £519 respectively, the reduction in the year's turnover was relatively considerable.

IX.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Public Works.

Owing to the necessity of restricting expenditure as much as practicable, only those public works which were of an urgent nature were undertaken. These included, in Tongatabu, the continuation of the work of metalling natural-soil main roads, according to the scheme which had been sanctioned, the reconstruction of the stone facing of the foreshore at Nukualofa, repairs to the wharf, the painting and repairing of various official quarters, and the removal of the quarantine station from the Island of Fafa to that of Makaha. Government buildings were repaired at Haabai and Vavau, and at Niuatobutabu the erection of a landing stage was commenced. The wharf at Vavau was repaired.

The War.

This report would not be complete without a reference to the supreme crisis which has arisen in the affairs of the world.

It was not until the 4th September, 1914, that the wholly unexpected and momentous news that Great Britain was at war reached Nukualofa. Prior to that date, no communication had been received from beyond the group since the 28th July. The only mail steamers calling at Tongan ports are those of the Union Steamship Company of New Zealand. These ceased to arrive when due, but by no one was it conjectured that the interruption in the service was owing to the existence of a state of war.

Notwithstanding the distance of Tonga from the centre of conflict, it need hardly be observed that the fact that Great Britain had been compelled to draw the sword and that the Empire was in arms profoundly stirred all classes of the community, and had the immediate effect of overshadowing all events of local interest.

The number of residents in Tonga of both sexes claiming British nationality is estimated to be less than 400, many of whom have never been beyond the limits of the kingdom. These remote islands, nevertheless, have been represented in the rally of Britons overseas to the colours, and those who have responded to the call of patriotism have done so entirely on their own resources.

Contributions from those who from a variety of causes have not been able to render personal service are being remitted periodically to the National Relief and other War Funds.

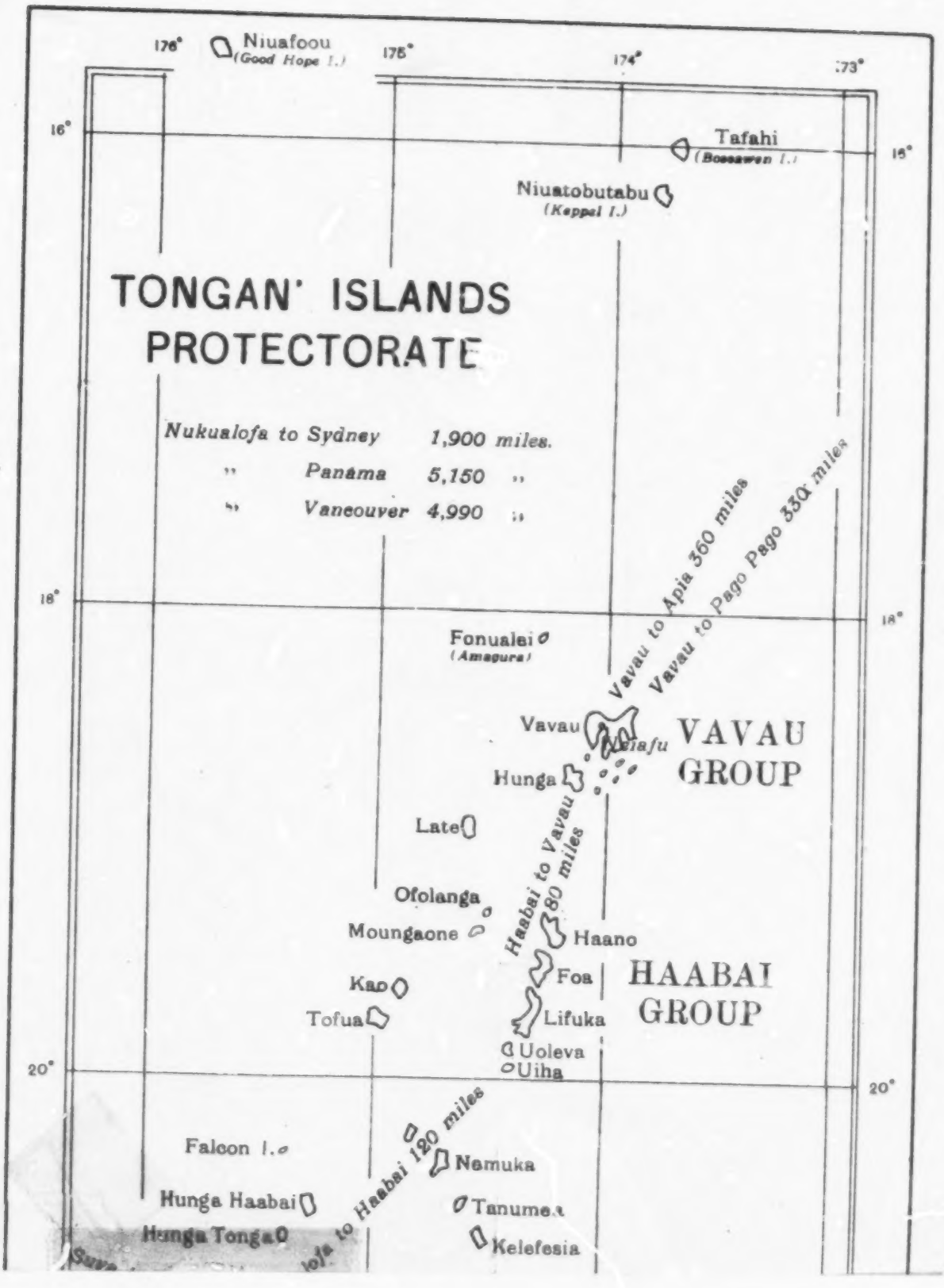
A branch of the Patriotic League of Britons Overseas has been founded in Nukualofa, and subscriptions have been raised for the purpose of enabling the members to participate in the proposal of the League to present a warship to the Nation and so identify themselves with the defence of the Empire.

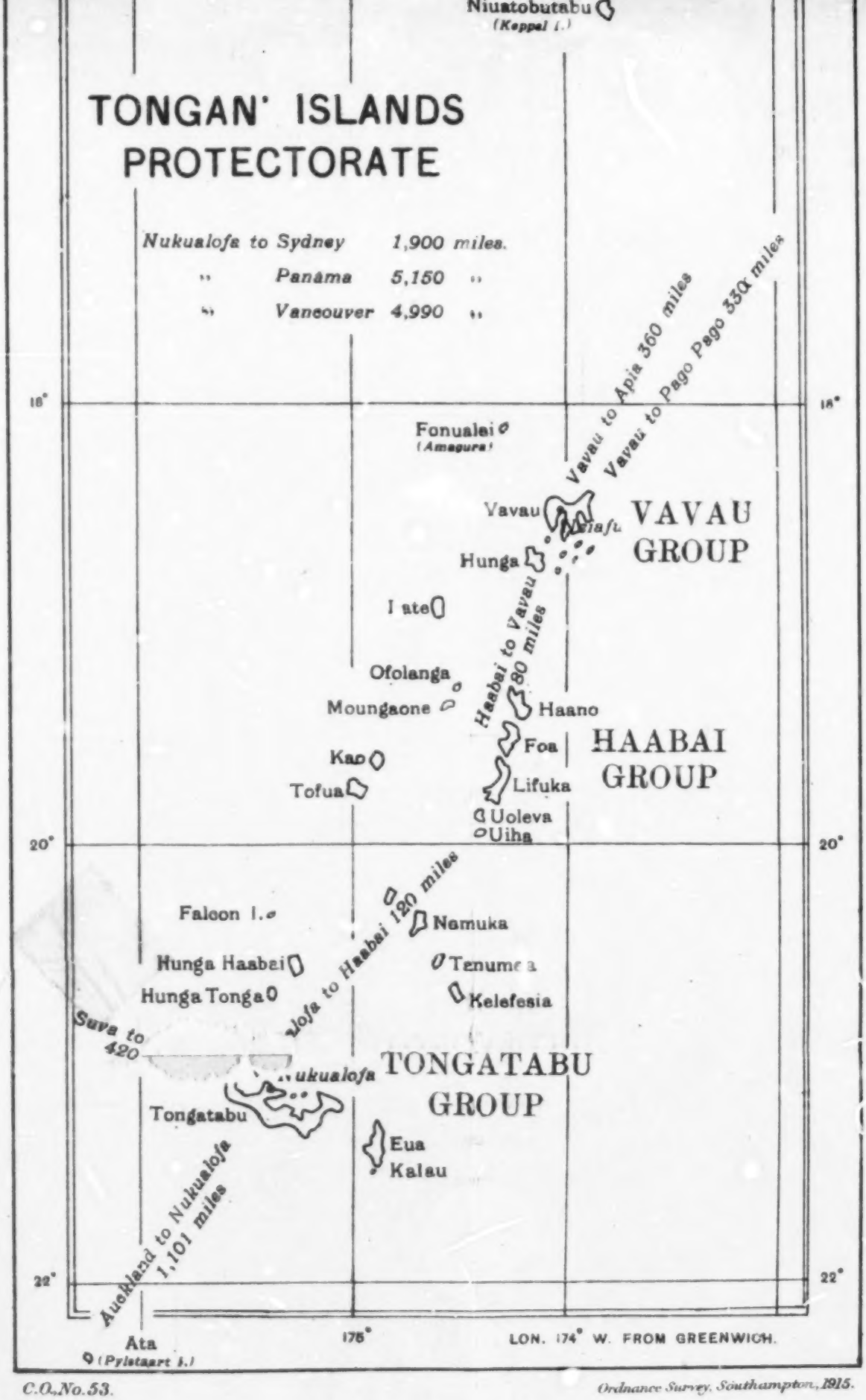
Both the Tongan Government and the Tongan people—nobles, chiefs, and commoners—have given tangible expression to their loyalty and to their sympathy with those who have suffered distress in consequence of the war by contributing generously to the relief funds.

H. E. W. GRANT,

H.B.M.'s Agent and Consul.

Nukualofa, Tonga.
20th August, 1915.


176°
Niuafoou
(Good Hope I.)
175°
174°
173°
16°
Tafahi
(Boscawen I.)
15°
Niuatobutabu
(Keppel I.)
TONGAN ISLANDS
PROTECTORATE
Nukualofa to Sydney 1,900 miles.
" Panama 5,150 "
" Vancouver 4,990 "
18°
Fonualei
(Amargura)
Vavau to Apia 360 miles
Vavau to Pago Pago 330 miles
Vavau
Kelafu
VAVAU
GROUP
Hunga
Late
Haabai to Vavau
80 miles
Ofolanga
Moungaone
Haano
Foa
HAABAI
GROUP
Kao
Tofua
Lifuka
Uoleva
Uiha
20°
Falcon I.
Vavau to Haabai 120 miles
Namuka
Hunga Haabai
Tanumea
Hunga Tonga
Kelefesia



C.O.No.53.

Ordnance Survey, Southampton, 1915.

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1915.

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Tongan Islands

1923/24 to 1927

Andronicus Publishing Company, Inc.

TO 3 of 11

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1237.

TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.

REPORT FOR 1923-24.

LONDON:
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No. 1237.

REPORT ON THE TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE FOR THE YEAR 1923–24.*

The Kingdom of Tonga embraces the groups of islands of Tongatabu, Haabai and Vavau, together with the outlying islands of Niuafoou, Niuatobutabu and Tafahi.

The main group was discovered by Tasman in 1643.

Niuatobutabu and Tafahi were named Keppel and Boscawen respectively by Wallis in 1767.

Niuafoou was discovered by Captain Edwards in H.M.S. "Pandora" on 3rd August, 1791, and named by him Proby Island. It is considered to be the Good Hope island of Schouten.

Captain Cook visited the islands on his second voyage in 1773, and again on his third voyage in 1777. On account of the disposition of the natives he named the group the Friendly Islands.

In the year 1845 George Tubou I, who by conquest had gathered all power into his own hands was proclaimed King of Tonga, and set up a monarchy. In 1888 a constitutional form of government was established. By the Constitution, the powers of the Sovereign were strictly limited. A Legislative Assembly was created composed of the Ministers of the Crown, thirty-two nobles and an equal number of elected representatives of the people. The King appointed his own Ministers, who held the principal offices in the Government and were members of the Privy Council and Cabinet.

The Constitution granted in 1888 is the Magna Charta of the Tongan people to-day, and, except for a few amendments, notably a reduction in the number of the members of the Legislative Assembly, remains the same.

Queen Salote Tubou, the present Queen, succeeded to the throne on the death of her father, King George Tubou II, on 29th April, 1918.

A Protectorate was proclaimed over Tonga on 19th May, 1900, under which Great Britain assumed the exercise of civil and criminal jurisdiction over all subjects of foreign powers in Tonga, and an Agent and Consul was appointed to advise the Queen and Government of Tonga and to supervise the financial administration of the Kingdom.

The seat of Government is at Nukualofa, on the island of Tongatabu.

* A Sketch Map will be found in the Report for 1914–15, No. 870 [Cd. 7622–61].

I. General Observations.

Socially and politically the year 1923 was uneventful. As a result of the firmness of the copra market, and the absence of hurricanes, trade was good, as the figures under that heading indicate. Probably the most notable event of the year was the extension to Tonga of the direct steamship service (Clan I ine) from the United Kingdom to Fiji. The first of these vessels called at Tongan ports in October, too late in the year to affect the value of direct importations for the period under review. The service is a two-monthly one and the vessels usually call at two of the three ports of entry in the group. The benefit to Tonga of this service will be considerable, as transhipment charges are avoided on inward and outward cargoes and lower freight rates are obtainable.

II. Financial.

General Revenue and Expenditure for the year 1923–24. (The financial year begins on 1st July) :—

	Revenue.			*Expenditure.*	
		£			£
1919–20	..	79,928	1919–20	..	55,533
1920–21	..	90,765	1920–21	..	66,511
1921–22	..	59,848	1921–22	..	75,365
1922–23	..	68,949	1922–23	..	72,149
1923–24	..	81,023	1923–24	..	61,796

There were no changes in taxation or currency during the year.

There is no public debt. All administrative charges and expenditure on public works are provided from revenue. At 30th June, 1924, the surplus funds amounted to £97,811, most of which is invested in war bonds and Government stock, the balance being on deposit.

III. Annual Progress of Trade, Agriculture and Industry.

Imports and Exports.

Year.			*Imports.*	*Exports.*	*Total trade.*
			£	£	£
1919	..	..	184,523	193,169	377,692
1920	..	..	383,759	374,836	758,595
1921	..	..	259,969	206,275	466,244
1922	..	..	133,393	217,518	350,911
1923	..	..	195,020	267,619	462,639

The value of imports from the United Kingdom and British possessions for the year 1923 was £189,360 and, of the balance, goods to the value of £5,480 were imported from the United States of America.

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Agriculture.

The trade of Tonga depends almost entirely on the copra industry and, while there is a steady increase in the output of copra, variations in the annual volume of trade are very largely a reflection of the price of that commodity in the world's markets. During the period under review 14,339 tons of copra, valued at £257,009, were exported, i.e., 96·03 per cent. of the total value of exports.

An unsuccessful attempt was made during the year by the Government to re-establish the banana trade with New Zealand.

In 1910 regular shipments of fruit were made by a monthly direct steamship service to New Zealand, but on its discontinuance the market for fruit was lost and native growers cannot be induced to plant in sufficient quantities to obtain a renewal of the direct service.

The importance of establishing the fruit trade is recognized by the Government and arises from the fact that these islands are within the hurricane belt and are occasionally visited by gales that do much damage to plantations. The coconut trees receive a severe set back for several years whereas banana plantations are not affected to the same extent nor for such a long period.

As every Tongan taxpayer is entitled by law to receive a tax allotment of 8¼ acres, and as the quantity of land available is limited, the policy of the Government is not to encourage the lease of large areas to Europeans.

Small areas are, however, obtainable on lease at annual rentals varying from 4s. to 10s. per acre and for periods not exceeding fifty years with the option of renewal at increased rentals.

European planters, however, are faced with the problem of procuring labourers in sufficient numbers and at wages that make planting operations a payable undertaking.

IV. Legislation.

Twelve acts were passed during the year 1923, none of which calls for special comment, except perhaps Act No. 2, the Import and Export Duties Amendment Act, under which the duty on kinematograph films imported for use is reduced from 2s. 6d. per roll to 4d. per 1,000 ft. if exported within three months. New bags or sacks for copra were added to the free list.

V. Education.

Education for Tongans is compulsory. At the end of 1923 there were 74 Government and 43 Denominational Primary Schools with a daily average attendance for the year of 4,605. These schools are subject to annual examination by Government

inspectors, and the reports for the year show that the percentage of passes obtained was 44·05, as compared with 42·6 for the previous year.

In addition to the above schools, which are for Tongans only and are staffed by Tongan teachers, there is one Wesleyan school, one Anglican and one Roman Catholic school for European children at Nukualofa, and a public school at Vavau. The last named receives a grant-in-aid from public funds. Competent European teachers are in charge of these schools.

Secondary education for Tongans is provided at the Government College at Nukualofa, at the Wesleyan College for boys at Nafualu and at the Wesleyan College for girls at Nukualofa. At these institutions the European masters are assisted by Tongan teachers and the classes are conducted on an English basis.

Carpentry is taught at the Government College, but with this exception there was no technical or industrial education. Arrangements have, however, been made to attach a number of ex-college students to the Public Works and Agricultural Departments next year for training.

VI. Vital Statistics.

The estimated population of Tongan subjects on 31st December, 1923, was 24,673, showing an increase of 252 as compared with the estimated population at the close of the year 1922.

The birth-rate per 1,000 for the year was 33·21, as against 37·02 in 1922; and the death-rate 22·68, as against 22·1.

The total population at the last census (1921) was :—

Tongans..	23,759
Europeans	571
Half-castes	235
Other natives of Pacific Islands	370
	24,935

VII. Climate.

Although the Tongan group lies between latitudes 16 and 22 degrees south, and is therefore within the tropics, the climate is probably the best of any of the islands in the Western Pacific. For eight months of the year, that is from May to November inclusive, the thermometer rarely registers higher than 83°, and as the humidity is comparatively low during these months Europeans do not feel the heat to the same extent as in the groups to the north.

During the wet season, that is from December to March (inclusive), the temperature ranges from 65° to 94°, with a higher humidity. Malaria and other tropical fevers are unknown.

The following table shows the maximum, minimum and mean temperatures for each month, together with the rainfall and the number of days upon which rain fell :—

Month.	*Maximum.*	*Minimum.*	*Mean.*	*Rainfall.*	*No. of days on which rain fell.*
	°	°	°	*in.*	
January ..	93·5	65	79·2	11·92	17
February ..	92·5	69	80·7	4·36	16
March ..	91·5	67	79·2	16·23	18
April ..	89	61·5	75·2	6·25	5
May ..	84·5	56	70·2	16·19	15
June ..	81	52	66·5	2·66	5
July ..	81	52	66·5	4·16	7
August ..	84·5	52	68·2	1·97	6
September	82	52	67·0	3·06	7
October ..	88·5	52·5	70·5	·67	2
November ..	87	57·5	72·2	1·65	9
December	92	62	77·0	6·33	7

VIII. COMMUNICATIONS.

There is a regular monthly steamer service from New Zealand via Fiji and Samoa. A steamer of the Union Steamship Line leaves Auckland every four weeks for Nukualofa calling at Fiji (Suva). From Fiji the vessel calls at Samoa (Apia), Vavau, Haapai and Nukualofa, returning again to Fiji and Auckland. Every alternate month the above order is reversed, and from Fiji the steamer calls at Nukualofa first, then at Haapai, Vavau, Samoa and back to Fiji and Auckland.

Passengers, goods and mails from Sydney and from the Canadian Australasian Royal Mail Line of steamers are transhipped at Suva, Fiji, for the other islands, including the Tongan ports.

In addition to the above there is a two-monthly direct service from the United Kingdom via Fiji, and at irregular intervals cargo steamers call at Tonga for copra for American and Continental ports.

There is a telephone system and a wireless station at Nukualofa. The latter works in connection with the wireless service at Fiji, thence by the Pacific Cable Board service to all parts of the world. It has been decided to establish a sub-station at Vavau for internal communications only.

Postal communication throughout the three main groups is good and mails are conveyed by sailing vessels at fairly frequent though not at regular intervals.

On Tongatabu, which is the largest island of the group, there are about 30 miles of metalled road suitable for motor traffic, the number of registered motor vehicles at 31st December, 1923, being 58.

I. MCOWAN,
H.B.M's Agent and Consul,
Tonga.

Nukualofa, Tonga.
3rd October, 1924.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1206	Cyprus	1923
1207	Gold Coast	1922–1923
1208	Trinidad and Tobago	1923
1209	Zanzibar Protectorate	,,
1210	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1923–1924
1211	Swaziland	1923
1212	Basutoland	1923–1924
1213	Turks and Caicos Islands	1923
1214	Fiji	,,
1215	British Honduras	,,
1216	New Hebrides	,,
1217	Gibraltar	,,
1218	Jamaica	,,
1219	Sierra Leone	,,
1220	Uganda	,,
1221	Grenada	,,
1222	British Guiana	,,
1223	St. Vincent	,,
1224	St. Helena	,,
1225	Barbados	1923–1924
1226	Somaliland	1923
1227	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	,,
1228	Hongkong	,,
1229	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1923–1924
1230	Colonial Survey Committee Report	1914–1923
1231	Cayman Islands	1923
1232	Leeward Islands	1923–1924
1233	Federated Malay States	1923
1234	Mauritius	,,
1235	Straits Settlements	,,
1236	Seychelles	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
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84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
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92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1291.

TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.

REPORT FOR 1924-25.

For Report for 1923-24 see No. 1237 (Price 3d.).

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No. 1291.

TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT
for the year ended 30th June, 1925.*

The Kingdom of Tonga embraces the groups of islands of Tongatabu, Haapai and Vavau, together with the outlying islands of Niuafoou, Niuatobutabu and Tafahi.

The main group was discovered by Tasman in 1643.

Niuatobutabu and Tafahi were named Keppel and Boscawen respectively by Wallis in 1767.

Niuafoou was discovered by Captain Edwards in H.M.S. "Pandora" on 3rd August, 1791, and named by him Proby island. It is considered to be the Good Hope island of Schouten.

Captain Cook visited the islands on his second voyage in 1773, and again on his third voyage in 1777. On account of the disposition of the natives he named the group the Friendly Islands.

In the year 1845 George Tubou I, who by conquest had gathered all power into his own hands, was proclaimed King of Tonga, and set up a monarchy. In 1888 a constitutional form of Government was established. By the Constitution, the powers of the Sovereign were strictly limited. A Legislative Assembly was created composed of the Ministers of the Crown, thirty-two nobles and an equal number of elected representatives of the people. The King appointed his own Ministers, who held the principal offices in the Government and were members of the Privy Council and Cabinet.

The Constitution granted in 1888 is the Magna Charta of the Tongan people to-day, and, except for a few amendments, notably a reduction in the number of the members of the Legislative Assembly, remains the same.

Queen Salote Tubou, the present Queen, succeeded to the throne on the death of her father, King George Tubou II, on 29th April, 1918.

A Protectorate was proclaimed over Tonga on 19th May, 1900, under which Great Britain assumed the exercise of civil and criminal jurisdiction over all subjects of foreign powers in Tonga, and an Agent and Consul was appointed to advise the Queen and Government of Tonga and to supervise the financial administration of the Kingdom.

The seat of Government is at Nukualofa, on the island of Tongatabu.

*A Sketch Map will be found in the Report for 1914–15, No. 870 [Cd. 7622–61]

I. General Observations.

The only event which could be regarded as of social and political importance during the year was the union of the Wesleyan Free Church and the Methodist Church, the adherents of the former numbering about two-thirds of the native population and those of the latter about one-third, the remainder being adherents of other denominations. This was not effected without a good deal of religious strife and litigation, but the union has removed many grievances and causes of friction and has strengthened the cause of national unity in church and politics.

Trade has been well maintained as is indicated in the returns for the year. The prices of copra in European and in American markets remained firm, being about the same as for the previous year.

The Clan Line of steamers continued to call at Tongan ports for cargoes of copra, also a line of Norwegian steamers belonging to Messrs. Wilhelmsen of Oslo. The direct importations from Great Britain by the Clan Line of steamers were considerably in excess of those for any previous year. Manufacturers and exporters of articles suitable for island trade would do well to obtain from the Agency and Consulate a list of the names and addresses of firms in Tonga to whom catalogues and prices might be sent with advantage. It is rarely that local buyers visit the Agency and Consulate for the purpose of obtaining names of manufacturers and exporters of particular lines.

II. Financial.

The general revenue and expenditure for the financial year 1924–25 beginning on the 1st July, 1924, are shown in the following comparative tables :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1920–21	90,765	66,511
1921–22	59,848	75,365
1922–23	68,949	72,149
1923–24	81,023	61,796
1924–25	74,335	63,539

There is no public debt. At the 30th June, 1924, the surplus funds amounted to £108,607, most of which is invested in war bonds and Government stock. There were no changes in taxation or currency. The Government note issue was increased from £10,000 to £20,000.

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III. Annual Progress of Trade, Agriculture and Industry.

The following table shows the value of imports, exports and total trade for the five years ended 31st December, 1924. The returns for 1925 are not yet available.

Year.	*Imports.*	*Exports.*	*Total Trade.*
	£	£	£
1920	383,759	374,836	758,595
1921	259,969	206,275	466,244
1922	133,393	217,518	350,911
1923	195,020	267,619	462,639
1924	232,600	306,658	539,258

The value of imports from the United Kingdom and British Possessions for the year 1924 was £222,418 and, of the balance, goods to the value of £6,535 were imported from the United States of America and £1,714 from Japan. Direct importations from Great Britain increased from £10,560 in 1923 to £30,023 in 1924.

The trade of Tonga depends entirely upon the output of copra and its price in the world's markets. The quantity and value of copra exported during the past five years has been :—

	Quantity.	*Value.*
	Tons.	£
1920	11,065	372,278
1921	9,604	196,922
1922	13,506	209,009
1923	14,339	257,586
1924	14,533	297,487

Agriculture.

There is a steady increase in the quantity of copra produced, and this is due to the fact that every Tongan taxpayer is entitled to a tax allotment of 8¼ acres, and is compelled to plant a certain proportion of the land in coconuts. Fresh areas are thus being planted and coming into bearing.

European planters are few in number and their operations are on a small scale. The amount of cultivable land is limited and the policy of the Government is not to encourage the leasing of large areas to Europeans.

Small areas of land up to several hundred acres are obtainable from the native owners at annual rentals varying from 4*s.* to 10*s.* per acre for periods not exceeding fifty years with the option of renewal at increased rentals.

Labour problems, however, make planting operations for Europeans difficult.

Very little fruit is grown for export owing to the difficulty of obtaining regular supplies from the native growers and the consequent lack of direct steamer communication with New Zealand. Only 4,071 cases valued at £1,480 were exported during the year.

IV. Legislation.

Eighteen Acts were passed during the year. Under the Import and Export Duties Amendment Act machinery and plant for public electric lighting purposes were placed on the free list, and under the Customs Regulation Amendment Act, snuff, tobacco, cigars and cigarettes may be imported in any quantity by parcels post. Hitherto importations have been restricted to quantities of not less than 20 lb. weight.

V. Education.

Education for Tongans is compulsory. On the 31st December, 1924, there were 74 Government and 31 Denominational primary schools with a daily average attendance of 4,600. These schools are subject to annual examination by Government Inspectors, and the reports for the year show that the percentage of passes obtained was 57.71 as compared with 44.05 for the previous year.

The schools are staffed by Tongan teachers and instruction is given in the vernacular. English is not taught as a subject.

In addition to the above schools, which are for Tongans only, there is one Wesleyan, one Anglican and one Roman Catholic school for European children at Nukualofa and a public school at Vavau, the last-mentioned receiving a grant-in-aid from public funds. Competent European teachers are in charge of the schools. Secondary education for Tongans is provided at the Government College for boys at Nukualofa, at the Wesleyan College for boys at Nafualu, and at the Wesleyan College for girls at Nukualofa. At all these institutions the European masters are assisted by Tongan teachers and the classes are conducted in the English language.

At the Government and the Wesleyan Colleges for boys all native foods consumed are grown on the college plantations by the boys under the superintendence of the teachers. Ex-college students in limited numbers are engaged as apprentices in the Public Works Department as carpenters, blacksmiths and engineers. For disciplinary purposes they are accommodated at the college under the control of the headmaster.

Apprentices in agriculture are employed at the Agricultural Station under the superintendence of the Director of Agriculture, their training being in improved methods of cultivating native food crops, diseases of plants and trees, etc. Although the system has only just been started and is on a limited scale the results are encouraging and the apprentices in carpentry, blacksmithy and engineering have shown aptitude for the work.

VI. Vital Statistics.

The estimated population of Tongan subjects at the 31st December, 1924, was 25,088, an increase of 780 for the year. The birth-rate per thousand was 35·9 as against 33·21 in 1923, and the death-rate 18·4 as against 22·68 in 1923. For a long period of years the births annually have outnumbered the deaths and there is, consequently, a steady increase in the population. The total population at the last census (1921) was :—

Tongans	23,759
Europeans	571
Half castes	235
Other natives of Pacific Islands	370
	24,935

Increased activity in regard to public health was shown during the year. A campaign against Hookworm (Ankylostomiasis), which was found to be prevalent amongst the native population, was undertaken. The Board of the Rockfeller Foundation lent the services of an expert for a preliminary survey and to inaugurate the campaign. The native population responded to mass treatment with gratifying results. A commencement was made also to improve the sanitary condition of the villages and the water supplies. A standard type of fly-proof latrine was adopted and is now being made by the Government for sale to the natives. The village water supplies, consisting of large concrete cisterns, are being repaired and where necessary enlarged, and measures have been adopted to ensure sufficient supplies of clean water.

VII. Climate.

Although the Tongan Group lies between latitudes 16° and 22° South, and is therefore within the Tropics, the climate is probably the best of any of the islands in the Western Pacific. For eight months of the year, that is, from May to November inclusive, the thermometer rarely registers higher than 83°, and as the humidity is comparatively low during these months Europeans do not feel the heat to the same extent as in the groups to the north.

During the wet season, that is, from December to March (inclusive), the temperature ranges from 65° to 94° with a higher humidity. Malaria and other tropical fevers are unknown. The following table shows the maximum, minimum and mean tem-

peratures for each month, together with the rainfall and the number of days upon which rain fell :—

Month.	*Maximum.* °	*Minimum* °	*Mean.* °	*Rainfall. in.*	*No. of days on which rain fell.*
January ..	92·5	63	77·7	3·17	9
February ..	92	64·5	78·2	12·34	17
March ..	90	61·5	75·7	12·95	21
April.. ..	90	64	77	11·36	15
May	84·5	59	71·7	5·10	11
June ..	83·5	50	66·7	1·63	5
July	82·5	51	66·7	2·12	13
August ..	81·5	48	64·7	5·23	10
September ..	83	51·5	67·2	8·30	8
October ..	83	51	67	2·61	4
November ..	86	50	68	·18	2
December ..	89	60	74·5	·14	4

VIII. Communications.

There is a regular monthly steamer service from New Zealand via Fiji. A steamer of the Union Steamship Company leaves Auckland every four weeks for Nukualofa calling at Suva, Fiji, *en route*, thence proceeding to Haapai, Vavau and Samoa and back to Fiji and New Zealand.

Passengers, goods and mails from Sydney and from the Canadian Australasian Royal Mail Line of steamers are transhipped at Suva, Fiji, for Tongan ports. In addition to the above there is a two-monthly direct service from the United Kingdom via Fiji, and at irregular intervals cargo steamers call at Tongan ports for copra for American and European ports.

There is a wireless station at Nukualofa, and a sub-station at Vavau. The former communicates with the wireless station at Fiji, thence by the Pacific Cable Board service to all parts of the world. The sub-station at Vavau is only used for internal communications.

Postal communication throughout the group is maintained by sailing vessels and is frequent though irregular.

A telephone system is in operation at Nukualofa.

On Tongatabu, which is the largest island of the Group and the seat of the capital, there are about thirty miles of good metalled roads suitable for motor traffic. The number of registered motor vehicles at 31st December, 1925, was 88.

I. McOWAN,

H.B.M's Agent and Consul,
Tonga.

Nukualofa, Tonga.

29th January, 1926.

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TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.

REPORT FOR 1926.

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TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1926.

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The Kingdom of Tonga consists of three groups of islands called, respectively, Tongatabu, Haapai and Vavau, together with the outlying islands of Niuatobutabu, Tafahi and Niuafoou. The main groups are situated between the 18th and 22nd degrees of South latitude and the 173rd and 176th degrees of West longitude and extend over an area of approximately 250 square miles. Tongatabu, the principal island, was discovered by Tasman in 1643, and after his departure there is no record that the group was again visited until Wallis landed at Niuatobutabu and Tafahi in 1767. These islands were named Keppel and Boscawen, respectively, by him. Six years later Cook visited Tongatabu, and he again visited the group in 1777. The group was named by him the Friendly Islands. Niuafoou was discovered by Captain Edwards in H.M.S. "Pandora" in 1791, and named by him Proby Island. It is considered to be the Good Hope island of Schouten. For the next 50 years the islands were the scenes of civil wars, which were finally checked during the reign of King George Tubou I, who by conquest had gathered all power into his own hands and was proclaimed King of Tonga in the year 1845. This monarch desired to rule in a constitutional manner, and in the year 1875 he limited his powers by granting a Constitution to his people, which was to be the "palladium of freedom to all Tongans for ever." This Constitution was from time to time amended, and

it was finally published in 1888. Since this date the Constitution, except for an alteration in the number of the members of the Legislative Assembly, has remained substantially the same.

The present Sovereign, Queen Salote Tubou, came to the Throne on the 29th April, 1918, on the death of her father King George Tubou II, the great grandson of the first King.

A Protectorate was proclaimed over Tonga in May, 1900, and a British Agent was appointed. Under the provisions of the Treaty with Tonga, signed in 1900, civil jurisdiction over British subjects and foreigners is exercised by the British Agent, who holds a Commission as a Deputy Commissioner of His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner's Court for the Western Pacific. In criminal matters British subjects and foreigners are subject to the jurisdiction of the Tongan Courts only for offences against Tongan laws relating to Customs, Taxation, Public Health, and Police, not cognisable as such under the provisions of the Pacific Order in Council, 1893. In other respects they are subject to the jurisdiction of the High Commissioner's Court. The British Agent is consulted upon all matters concerning the finances of the Kingdom, and the making of appointments to the Public Service.

The seat of Government is at Nukualofa, on the island of Tongatabu.

I.—General Observations.

The islands suffered during the year from the effects of a prolonged drought. This caused a general depression in trade, which was chiefly felt towards the end of the year. During the 12 months ending the 30th April, 1926, only 37.39 inches of rain fell in Tongatabu, which is approximately half the average fall, and during the rainy season, November to March inclusive, only 11.77 inches fell. This drought affected adversely the output of copra in the second half of the year 1926, and reduced the purchasing power of the community whose main source of wealth is copra.

The year was noticeable also for a large increase in serious crime. This increase was unconnected with economic conditions. A brutal murder, the motive of which was sexual, was committed at Vavau, and the murderer suffered the extreme penalty of the law. This was the first capital charge heard in Tonga for 30 years. Other crimes of a sexual nature, previously unknown in the group, were committed during the year and the offenders sentenced to long terms of imprisonment.

Mr. I. McOwan, who had held the post of British Agent and Consul since 1917, was transferred to Fiji in June, and his successor did not assume office until January, 1927. This report, therefore, will be mostly of a statistical nature.

II.—Financial.

A comparative table of revenue and expenditure for the last five years is as follows :—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1921-22	59,848	75,365
1922-23	68,949	72,149
1923-24	81,023	61,796
1924-25	74,335	63,539
1925-26	91,696	68,759

The financial year of the Tongan Government ends on the 30th June.

There were no changes in taxation or currency during the year.

There is no public debt and, at the end of the financial year 1925-26, the surplus funds of the Protectorate amounted to £131,544. These funds are invested in War Bonds, New Zealand and Straits Settlements Government Stock, and in fixed deposits with the Bank of New Zealand.

A Government Savings Bank was opened in January, 1926, and the total amount of deposits received up to the 31st December was £3,495. Withdrawals during the same period amounted to £558.

III.—Annual progress of Trade, Agriculture, and Industry.

The following table shows the value of imports, exports, and the total trade of the Protectorate for the last five years.

Year.	*Imports.*	*Exports.*	*Total Trade.*
	£	£	£
1922	133,393	217,518	350,911
1923	195,020	267,619	462,639
1924	232,600	306,658	539,258
1925	258,322	290,115	548,437
1926	227,882	263,198	491,080

The decline in trade was caused by the drought to which reference has been made above.

The value of imports from the United Kingdom and British possessions, during the year 1926, amounted to £48,039 and £158,379, respectively, or 21 per cent. and 69 per cent. of the value of the total imports. Of the balance of £21,464, goods to the value of £16,496 and £2,353 were imported from America and Japan, respectively. Imports from other foreign countries were negligible. The chief imports consisted of drapery, hardware, timber, flour, meats, sugar, and kerosene.

The general customs tariff is 12½ per cent. *ad valorem* and there are no preferential duties.

The export trade was confined almost entirely to copra. The quantity and value of the export of this commodity during the last five years is as follows :—

Year.	*Quantity, Tons.*	*Value.* £
1922	13,506	209,009
1923	14,339	257,586
1924	14,533	297,487
1925	13,758	280,386
1926	13,992	255,156

All land in Tonga is the property of the Crown, but every Tongan taxpayer is entitled by law to receive a tax allotment of $8\frac{1}{4}$ acres. There are a few European planters in the group.

Tenure is leasehold. The difficulty of obtaining labour at economic rates is a bar to development. In addition, owing to the nature of the Tongan land system, the leasing to Europeans of large areas is not encouraged by the Government.

Tonga is entirely an agricultural country and there are no manufactures. No minerals have been discovered in any of the islands, and there are no rivers.

Apart from the Government Savings Bank, there are no banks in the Protectorate.

IV.—Legislation.

Twenty-one Acts were passed during the year. Acts of importance were the Public Health, the Government Savings Bank, the Copra, the Evidence, and the Criminal Offences Acts. Under the Public Health Act, Advisory Health Boards are created and special provisions are enacted in the matter of water supply and sanitary services. The Government Savings Bank Act provides for the establishment of a Savings Bank. Its provisions are of the usual type. The Copra Act has for its object the improvement in the manufacture of copra. The Evidence Act is a declaratory Act based on the principles of British law. The Criminal Offences Act, based also on the principles of British law, is declaratory of certain principles of Criminal law and contains provisions dealing with the principal offences known therein. Another Act of interest is the Sunday Observance Act. This prohibits work, games, and dancing on the Sabbath day and removes doubts as to the interpretation of the old law against Sabbath-breaking.

V.—Education.

Education for Tongans between the ages of seven and fourteen years, both ages inclusive, is compulsory by law. At the end of the year there were 74 Government and 37 Denominational schools open, the same number as in the previous year. The average

daily attendance of pupils was 4,529. These schools are subject to inspection by Government inspectors. In addition to these schools, which are for Tongans only, there are Mission schools for European children at Nukualofa, and one school for Europeans at Vavau which receives a grant-in-aid.

Secondary education for Tongan boys is provided at the Government College at Nukualofa and at the Wesleyan College in Tongatabu. Both these schools are residential. At the Government College the staff consists of three European and five Tongan tutors. Instruction is carried on in English. Ex-students were admitted as apprentices in the Works Department and for disciplinary purposes they reside in the College. Agricultural training in improved methods of cultivation and in plant diseases was given to five selected apprentices at the Government Agricultural Farm, and these trainees were permitted to sell vegetables grown by them to residents in Nukualofa. At the Wesleyan College instruction is also carried on in English. A resident European clergyman is in charge.

Games play an important part in the life of the Colleges and the standard, particularly of tennis and Rugby football, is high. There is an excellent brass band at the Government College.

Secondary education for Tongan girls is conducted entirely by the Missions. There are residential schools on the three main islands, to which day pupils are admitted.

VI.—Vital Statistics.

The estimated Tongan population at the end of 1926 was 25,918, which represents an increase of 535 for the year. The birth-rate per thousand was 35.8.

The number of births recorded during the last five years, and the birth-rate, is as follows:—

Year.	*Number of Births.*	*Birth-rate per Thousand.*
1922	891	37.02
1923	806	33.21
1924	858	35.90
1925	866	35.60
1926	910	35.80

The number of deaths recorded during the five-year period ending the 31st December, 1926, and the death-rate, is as follows:—

Year.	*Number of Deaths.*	*Death-rate per Thousand.*
1922	532	22.10
1923	554	22.68
1924	443	18.40
1925	592	24.35
1926	377	14.84

Comparative figures of mortality among infants for each of the last five years are as follows :—

Year.	*In percentage of Deaths.*	*In per mille of Births.*
1922	... 30.6	182.90
1923	... 19.8	136.40
1924	... 26.3	135.20
1925	... 49.3	295.60
1926	... 24.5	102.19

A comparative table of marriages celebrated during each of the last five years is as follows :—

Year.	*Number of Marriages.*	*Rate per Mille.*
1922	... 233	9.60
1923	... 348	14.20
1924	... 284	11.80
1925	... 224	9.20
1926	... 237	9.33

Of the deaths recorded in the three main groups of islands, 22 per cent. of the total deaths were due to tuberculosis, and 50 per cent. were unattended. Difficulties of communications, and the still-existing belief in the efficacy of native medicine, accounts for the high percentage of unattended deaths.

The decline in the death and infant mortality rates is a noteworthy feature of the statistics. The sanitary condition of the villages is being steadily improved by the compulsory installation of concrete fly-proof latrines.

In addition to the estimated Tongan population of 25,918, it is estimated that there were resident in the Protectorate at the end of the year, 530 Europeans, 235 half-castes, 328 other Pacific Islanders, 26 Indians and 11 Japanese.

VII.—Climate.

The climate of the Tongan Group from May to November is excellent. The thermometer rarely registers higher than 83 degrees, and the humidity during these months is relatively low. During the wet season, from December to April, the temperature is, as a rule, about 90 degrees and the humidity high, especially during the period of northerly winds. During this season the climate is trying to Europeans, but tropical fevers are unknown. The year under review was exceptional and the rainfall, viz., 50.66 inches, was 20 points below the average fall of the previous two years.

The following table shows the maximum, minimum, and mean temperatures for each month, together with the rainfall, and the number of days on which rain fell.

Month.	*Maximum Degrees.*	*Minimum Degrees.*	*Mean Degrees.*	*Rainfall, inches.*	*No. of days on which rain fell.*
January	89	59	77·9	2·36	11
February	88	61	76·9	4·13	5
March	87	59	77·5	4·96	17
April	85	53·5	73·8	·67	11
May	83·5	51·5	72·2	4·90	10
June	82	61	70·1	3·91	18
July	79·5	55·5	70·9	10·42	14
August	81	53·5	72·1	·76	10
September	81	60	72·9	3·12	13
October	83	61	75·9	3·03	13
November	83	62	77·4	4·01	14
December	86	63	78·3	8.39	11

VIII.—Communications.

There is monthly communication with Auckland by a vessel of the Union Steamship Company. This vessel, after calling at Fiji *en route*, visits the three main islands of the Tongan Group and returns to Auckland via Samoa and Fiji. Although it is only 1,100 miles from Nukualofa to Auckland the journey, on account of the route followed, occupies a fortnight, and the absence of a direct communication with New Zealand, which existed before the war, is severely felt. Passengers, goods, and mails from other countries tranship, as a rule, at Suva or Auckland. In addition to this vessel there was a two-monthly service of a Clan Line vessel from the United Kingdom, and ships of the Norwegian Australian Line called regularly between April and November for copra freights. Cargo steamers or schooners with oil or lumber from America call occasionally in Tonga. During the year, 32 vessels from overseas, of a total tonnage of 81,271 tons, entered and cleared. Of this tonnage, 56,287 tons were British.

There is a wireless station at Nukualofa, and a sub-station at Vavau which communicates only with the main station. The Nukualofa station communicates with Fiji and thence by the Pacific Cable Board service to all parts of the world. During the year, 2,175 messages were forwarded by the wireless service, and 1,801 received. There is a telephone system with 105 subscribers at Nukualofa. Internal postal communication is maintained by small cutters and is frequent, though irregular. At Tongatabu there are over 30 miles of good metalled roads suitable for motor traffic. At Haapai and Vavau there are only earth roads. The number of registered motor vehicles at the end of the year was 110 at Tongatabu, 4 at Haapai and 29 at Vavau.

Nukualofa, Tonga.
1st August, 1927.

J. S. NEILL,
H.B.M.'s Agent and Consul.

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TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1927.

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History and Geography.

The Kingdom of Tonga consists of three main groups of islands called respectively Tongatabu, Haapai, and Vavau, together with the outlying islands of Niuafoou, Niuatobutabu, and Tafahi. The main groups are situated between the 18th and 22nd degrees of South latitude and the 173rd and 176th degrees of West longitude and extend over an area of approximately 250 square miles.

The island of Niuatobutabu was discovered by the Dutch Navigators, Schouten and Lemaire, in 1616. They did not visit the main groups. In 1643 Tongatabu was discovered by Tasman and from that year until 1767, when Wallis anchored at Niuatobutabu, there was no contact with the outside world. Captain Cook visited Tongatabu and the Haapai group in 1773 and again in 1777, and named the islands the Friendly Islands. Niuafoou was discovered by Captain Edwards in H.M.S. " Pandora " in the year 1791.

The early history of the Tongans is enshrouded in myth, but it is clearly established that there at one time existed two kings, a spiritual and a temporal. The power of the Tui Tonga, the spiritual king, seems to have spread over a vast area of Polynesia,

whence he received tribute. His office was hereditary. In course of time he divested himself of power and, while retaining his ceremonial position, he delegated executive functions to a temporal sovereign. The office of the sacred king disappeared some sixty years ago and its powers passed to the temporal king. The ancient monuments of Tonga bear testimony to the might of the sacred kings. The royal tombs in Tonga consist of quadrilateral mounds, faced by huge blocks of stone, some of which rise in terraces to a height of 20 feet. The stones are coral, of immense weight, and can only have been placed in position by the concerted labour of a large body of men. During the first half of the nineteenth century the islands were the scene of civil wars. These were finally checked during the reign of George Tubou I, who had by conquest gathered all power into his own hands. He was finally proclaimed King in 1845. King George was an absolute ruler, but, acting under missionary influence, he granted a Constitution to his people based on the English model. This Constitution was from time to time amended, yet in essentials the present Constitution differs but little from the original Constitution.

The first king died in 1893, after a memorable reign of nearly fifty years, and was succeeded by his great grandson. The present monarch, Queen Salote, succeeded to the throne on the death of her father, King George Tubou II, in 1918.

A Protectorate was proclaimed over Tonga in 1900, and a British Agent appointed.

English coin was made the currency of Tonga by a Statute passed by the Tongan Parliament in 1906. Tongan Government notes were issued in 1919 and at present notes to the value of £21,000 are in circulation. The issue is secured by a coin and investment reserve. English weights and measures are in use.

I.—GENERAL.

An event of interest during the year was the reappearance of Falcon Island. This island, which lies about forty-five miles to the north of Tongatabu, was first observed as a breaking reef in the year 1865, and in 1885 it appeared as an island. Its area was continually changing and in 1894 it was 3 miles long, 1½ miles broad, and 50 feet high. It disappeared in the year 1898, and, although it showed again in 1900, it disappeared altogether fourteen years ago. It was reported on the 1st October, 1927, to be erupting, and when observed a week later it was 1,730 yards long, north and south, 1,430 yards broad, east and west, and 305 feet high. The volcano played for one minute every twenty minutes and the eruption rose to a height of over 4,000 feet. It is occasionally visible from Tonga.

The Protectorate was visited during the year by His Majesty's Ships "Diomede", "Veronica", and "Laburnum".

II.—FINANCE.

The Tongan financial year ends on the 30th June. The revenue and expenditure totals for each of the last five years are as follows :—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1922-23	68,949	72,149
1923-24	81,023	61,796
1924-25	74,335	63,539
1925-26	91,696	68,759
1926-27	72,562	83,513

There is no public debt and at the close of the last financial year the surplus funds of the country amounted to £120,593. These funds are invested in War Bonds, New Zealand and Straits Settlements Stock, and in fixed deposit with the Bank of New Zealand. There is no loan issue.

A Government Savings Bank was established in 1926. During the first year of operations the total amount of deposits and withdrawals was £3,495 and £558 respectively. Last year, deposits to the amount of £7,929 were received and withdrawals amounted to the sum of £3,900. There is no other Bank in Tonga.

The principal sources of revenue are the Native Tax, import and export dues, trading licences, Court fees, rents of Government lands, and interest on investments.

All male Tongans when they attain the age of sixteen years pay a poll tax of 36s. per annum.

The general tariff on imported articles is 12½ per cent. *ad valorem*; there are no preference duties. There is an export tax on copra of 15s. per ton and this was increased during the year by the levy of a surtax of 5s. per ton. The increased duty will remain in force until 31st December next. Trading licences, gun licences, and Court fees were slightly increased during the year and a Stamp Act was passed providing for duty on receipts, mercantile documents, and leases. There had been a heavy fall in Customs duties during the previous year and it was found necessary to revise, in the manner indicated, the quantum of taxation.

The excess of expenditure over revenue during the year is accounted for by this fall in Customs dues, owing to trade depression following a drought, and by the purchase, out of surplus funds, of a Government despatch vessel.

III. PRODUCTION.

Apart from foodstuffs produced by the Tongans for domestic use, copra is the sole agricultural production of the islands. Fifteen years ago a considerable fruit export trade existed, but the absence of direct communication with New Zealand, which ceased during the war, has killed the trade.

The following table shows the quantity and value of copra exports for the five years ending 31st December last :—

Year.	*Tons.*	*Value.* £
1923	14,339	257,586
1924	14,533	297,487
1925	13,758	280,386
1926	13,992	255,156
1927	11,252	225,344

The decreased production in 1927 was due to the effect of the severe drought which prevailed during the latter half of 1925 and the first quarter of 1926.

Every Tongan landowner is compelled by law to have four acres of his tax allotment of 8¼ acres properly planted with coconuts. There is also a provision in the law to enforce the clearing of plantations.

A Copra Act was passed in 1926, having for its object the improvement in copra manufacture, and it has been made a statutory offence for a trader to have bad or damaged copra in his possession.

Copra production is almost entirely carried on by the Tongans. There are only a few European planters in the islands. The Tongan Government do not encourage European settlement and, apart from this fact, the difficulty of obtaining labour would form an effective bar to development of the land by Europeans.

There is no forestry or fishing production. Ten whales were caught during the year by a European whaler who lives in the islands. They were sold locally as foodstuff.

There are no minerals.

IV. TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The following table shows the value of the import and export trade during the last five years :—

Year.	*Imports.* £	*Exports.* £
1923	195,020	267,619
1924	232,600	306,658
1925	258,322	290,115
1926	227,882	263,198
1927	157,783	235,391

The export trade is confined to copra. It is exported on optional bills of lading and is mostly sold on the Continent.

The effects of the drought, to which reference has already been made, is apparent from the import figures. There has been a tightness of money throughout the year and the traders have not been heavy importers of new stocks. Imports consist chiefly of drapery, hardware, flour, tinned meats, sugar, kerosene, ben-

zine, timber, and gunny bags. The imports, apart from kerosene, benzine, and timber, are of United Kingdom, Australian, and New Zealand origin. The following figures show the percentage of imports from foreign countries during the last five years:—

Year.	*Per cent.*
1923	3
1924	4
1925	8
1926	9
1927	11

Of the rest of the imports the United Kingdom supplied 14 per cent., New Zealand 43 per cent., Australia 26 per cent., and other British possessions 6 per cent.

The volume of the import trade from the United Kingdom has not varied in any appreciable degree during the last five years. It consists mostly of drapery, hardware, drugs, and cement. Importations of the two former lines represent approximately 20 per cent. of total importations. There is a ready market for Manchester prints, suitable for native clothing, and for other cotton wearing apparel moderately costed. There is a limited market for the British light motor-car. Benzine is retailed at 3s. 6d. per gallon and the advantages of the light car in the matter of running expenses are obvious. Four British light cars were imported during the year; these were the first importations. There are 155 motor vehicles registered in Tonga.

The leading commercial houses, viz., Messrs. Burns Philp (South Sea) Company, Limited, and Messrs. Morris Hedstrom, Limited, import through their London offices.

Tonga is overstocked with stores. Every village has its trading station, and in many cases two or three. The overhead charges of trading are high with a consequent reaction on the cost of commodities. There is a keen demand among traders for copra. The costs of the upkeep of the numerous sub-stations of the traders and the high handling charges reflect themselves on the price paid.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

There is monthly communication with Auckland by a vessel of the Union Steamship Company. This vessel, after calling at Fiji *en route*, visits the three principal islands in Tonga, and returns to Auckland via Samoa and Fiji. Tonga is 1,100 miles distant from Auckland, yet the journey, on account of the route followed, occupies a fortnight. The lack of direct communication with New Zealand, which existed before the war, is severely felt.

Vessels of the Norwegian Australian Line called regularly between April and November for copra freights.

One vessel of the Clan Line called during the year, and the direct service every two months from the United Kingdom, via

ports, has been resumed this year. It was suspended during the year 1926. Steamers or schooners, with oil and timber cargoes from the United States of America, called at irregular intervals. During the year, 29 vessels from overseas of a total tonnage of 120,857 tons entered and cleared. Of this tonnage 73,728 tons was British and 41,914 Norwegian. Interinsular communication is carried out by the Tongan Government despatch vessel and sailing vessels. The Government vessel was commissioned during the year. She is a small auxiliary ship with a semi-Diesel engine.

There is a Tongan Government wireless station at Nukualofa and a sub-station at Vavau which communicates only with the main station. The Nukualofa radio communicates with Samoa and Fiji and thence by the Pacific Cable Board to all parts of the world. During the year, the Nukualofa station forwarded 1,199 messages and received 1,020. The sub-station forwarded 857 messages and received 510. There is a telephone system, with 97 subscribers, in Tonga. It serves the township of Nukualofa.

There are 35 miles of metalled roads in Tongatabu suitable for motor traffic. The by-roads are earth roads and are not suitable for heavy traffic during the wet season. It is proposed to metal the main roads on the island of Vavau, and road-making plant was installed during the year.

There are no railways in the islands.

Postal communication with the outside world is despatched monthly by the Union Company's steamer and by copra vessels. Interinsular mails are carried by the Government despatch vessel and by cutters. The Collectors of Customs act as Postmasters at Nukualofa, Haapai, and Vavau. British postal orders are issued at these offices, and money orders, for transmission through Australia, may also be obtained.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

There are two jurisdictions in Tonga. Under the provisions of the Treaty of 1900, civil jurisdiction over British subjects and foreigners is exercised by the British Agent, who holds a commission as a Deputy-Commissioner of His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner's Court for the Western Pacific. In criminal matters British subjects and foreigners are also subject to the jurisdiction of the High Commissioner's Court for offences other than offences against Tongan laws relating to Customs, Taxes, Public Health, and Police not cognisable as such under the provisions of the Pacific Order in Council. The Agent is a Judicial Commissioner in Divorce. The judicial work of the Agent is light. During the year, the Court sat on fifteen days.

The Courts of the Tongan Government have full jurisdiction over Tongans and the limited criminal jurisdiction stated above over British subjects and foreigners. The Tongan judicial system

is based on the British model, and trial by jury, in cases which come before the Supreme Court, is provided for in the Constitution. Serious crime among the Tongans is of infrequent occurrence and during the last five years the average number of persons convicted in the Supreme Court has been twenty. The Police Department is in charge of a Tongan Minister who is also the Public Prosecutor. The Tongan Police, when called upon to do so, assist His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner's Court in making arrests and enforcing judgments. The Minister of Police is also in charge of prisons. There is one main prison in Nukualofa, at which all long-sentence prisoners are confined. There is also a gaol in Haapai and in Vavau.

Prisoners are employed on road making and other public public works and in making copra and planting on Government plantations.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

A Treasury and Customs building was erected during the year at a cost of approximately £8,000. No other work of interest was carried out.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The year was one of progress in matters of public health. The Tongan Government have agreed to co-operate generally in carrying out the Resolutions adopted at the International Pacific Health Conference held at Melbourne in December, 1926, and a new Quarantine Law has been passed. Thirteen Tongan lepers have been transferred to the Leper Asylum of the Fiji Government at Makogai. The Central Medical School to be established in Fiji for the training of native medical practitioners has received the unqualified support of the Tongan Government. The campaign for the erection of cement latrines throughout the islands is progressing steadily, and the work has been completed in two of the three main groups. A provision of £2,500 was made in the Estimates to improve the water supply. There are no rivers or streams in Tonga, and the rainwater supply is conserved in tanks. It is proposed to improve and add to the existing cement tanks in the villages. This campaign is an essential corollary to the latrine campaign.

Apart from an influenza epidemic, of a mild nature, the incidence of sickness throughout the year was light.

There are three hospitals in Tonga. The main hospital at Nukualofa is well equipped. It consists of European and Tongan wards, in separate buildings, and a dispensary. The other hospitals are in Haapai and Vavau. They are suitable for local requirements.

The Medical Department consists of four European medical officers, an ankylostomiasis officer, a European nurse, and a Tongan staff. The Tongans receive free medical attention. The Government pay a retaining fee to a dentist, and the Tongans receive free treatment in cases of extractions and temporary stoppings. They are also treated freely for pyorrhœa, the incidence of which is heavy.

Provision was made for an expenditure of £9,990 on medical and health services. This sum is equivalent to 11.86 per cent. of the total estimated expenditure of the financial year.

The following figures show the vital statistics for the five years ending the 31st December last :—

Year.	*Number of Births.*	*Birth-rate.*
1923	806	33.21
1924	858	35.90
1925	866	35.60
1926	910	35.80
1927	976	37.65
	Number of Deaths.	*Death-rate.*
1923	554	22.68
1924	443	18.40
1925	592	24.35
1926	377	14.84
1927	297	11.07

The infant mortality rate for the year was extraordinarily low, viz., 37.90 per 1,000 births. Comparative figures of this rate are as follows :—

Year.	*Rate.*
1923	136.40
1924	135.20
1925	295.60
1926	102.19
1927	37.90

The estimated Tongan population at the end of the year was 26,597, an increase of 679 during the year.

IX.—EDUCATION.

Education is compulsory for all Tongans between the ages of six and fourteen years. The schools, in the Education Act, are divided into three types—primary, middle, and high. In the primary schools elementary education on a vernacular basis is provided. There are 73 Government and 36 denominational primary schools. The average daily attendance throughout the year was 4,946. These schools are subject to inspection. The buildings of the Government primary schools are provided by the taxpayers of the village. Education is free. Instruction is given in the three R's, singing, and needle work.

Middle schools are provided for in the Act for the purpose of providing an elementary education in English. It has not yet been found possible to establish any of these schools.

The High schools provide a general secondary education. The principal High schools are the Government College, Tubou College, and the Roman Catholic School in Tongatabu. These schools are residential.

The staff at the Government College consists of three Europeans and five Tongans. The ordinary academic instruction is given and pupils are taught the correct methods of growing native crops at the College plantation. The number of pupils at the College averages 170.

The Director of Education, who is also Principal of the College, conducts an annual course of instruction for head teachers in the primary schools during the long vacation. Evening classes in English for non-collegiates are also conducted throughout the year.

Tubou College is a Wesleyan Mission School which, in addition to its academic work, prepares teachers for the church primary schools. There are 61 pupils resident at the College. A European clergyman is in charge.

Games play an important part in the life of the colleges and the standard is high. The Tongan is a keen rugby footballer and a particularly good tennis player.

The college brass bands are an interesting feature of Tongan school life. The pupils respond readily to training.

Secondary education for girls, apart from missionary effort, is undeveloped.

A scholarship scheme was inaugurated during the year, under which Tongan students from the colleges will proceed abroad for secondary and university education. The value of the scholarships will not exceed £150 and £200 at secondary schools and the University respectively. It is intended to limit the number of scholars, at any one time, to five, and the scheme will be introduced gradually. One scholar was elected, after competitive examination, during the year and he has entered a public school in Australia.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

The Tongan land system is, in many respects, unique. All land is the property of the Crown, but large estates have been divided out among the nobles. Every Tongan, when he attains the age of sixteen and thereby becomes a taxpayer, is entitled to a tax allotment of $8\frac{1}{4}$ acres in the bush and a town site. He obtains the grant on application to the Minister of Lands. He pays an annual rental of 8s. for his tax allotment and no rent for his town site. The Minister grants the allotment out of the estate of the noble on which the applicant resides, and if land is not available a grant of Government land is made. Provision is made in the

law for ejectment for non-payment of rent or for failing to comply with the planting laws. The interest of Tongans in land, whether they are the holders of hereditary estates or of tax allotments, is a life interest and alienation is expressly forbidden. Leasing is subject to Government control. Devolution is specially provided for.

It is a curious fact that many Tongans do not take advantage of their statutory right to land. At the beginning of 1927 there were 5,545 allotments held and 703 taxpayers had not applied for allotment. This latter class live in the towns or on their father's cultivated allotment to which they hope in time to succeed. No Tongan can hold two tax allotments and this fact, together with the neglect of taxpayers to apply for an allotment, retards economic development. The law provides that a Tongan may, instead of applying for a tax allotment, with its definite area, apply for an ordinary lease. This is a new phase of the law and it is not possible as yet to state how it will in fact operate. An allotment holder may also be granted a lease and a condition precedent to grant is a well-cultivated allotment. Though, in law, the area of the statutory allotment is limited to 8¼ acres, instances are numerous in which this area is exceeded. The reasons for this departure from the theory of the system may be historical—the area held representing an old feudal grant.

It is beyond the limits of this report to sketch, except in the barest outline, this interesting system. It is incapable of precise legal definition. It is simple in its operation though its examination obscures its simplicity. It is an example of a system grafted upon the polity of a native people, a creature of law rather than of custom.

The survey work performed by the Government surveyors during the year consisted in defining hereditary estates and in demarcating tax and town allotments. Lease surveys were also executed.

XI.—LABOUR.

The number of labourers employed in Tonga is negligible. There are a few Solomon Islanders, Fijians, and Indians working on plantations or in the stores. The wages of these labourers averages £5 a month, with food. The Tongans labour at irregular intervals. They receive approximately 8s. a day and they are difficult to obtain. Tongan girls are employed as house servants at a wage of £2 10s. to £3 a month. A good cook is unobtainable in Tonga and it is necessary to introduce them from Fiji.

XII.—METEOROLOGICAL.

The climate of the Tongan Group from May to November is good for the tropics. The thermometer rarely registers higher than 80 degrees and the humidity, during these months, is, as a rule,

relatively low. During the wet season, from December to April, the temperature rarely rises above 90 degrees, but the humidity is high. The wet season is trying for Europeans. There is, however, no malaria

The climate throughout 1927 was abnormal, as the relative humidity remained high throughout the year. The rainfall was two points above the general average.

The following figures set out the meteorological summary for the year. As regards humidity, the maxima and minima shown are as observed at 9 a.m. The highest humidity recorded was 98 per cent. on the 12th January. The temperatures shown are the true extremes as the instruments used are self-recording.

Month.	*Bar.*	*Dry Bulb.*	*Wet Bulb.*	*Rel. Hum.*	*Max.*	*Min.*	*R'fall.*	*Wind.*
January ...	29·806	79·1	75·2	82·6	82·9	73·6	16·15	SE
February ...	29·792	81·8	75·6	74·3	85·4	73·8	4·67	E
March ...	29·909	82·0	76·9	78·6	85·7	75·1	5·01	SE
April ...	29·901	81·1	75·1	74·5	84·2	72·4	4·31	SSE
May	29·732	77·0	72·3	79·0	81·0	70·9	17·80	SE
June	30·018	73·5	69·3	79·4	78·6	66·2	2·45	SE
July	30·017	72·9	66·0	76·4	79·0	66·1	2·44	SSE
August ...	30·002	73·7	69·0	78·3	77·8	66·8	3·29	SSE
September ...	30·053	74·1	68·2	72·8	77·6	66·8	3·17	SE
October ...	29·997	76·2	70·6	74·5	79·4	69·2	4·74	SE
November ...	29·908	77·0	71·8	73·2	79·5	70·9	4·81	SE
December ...	29·828	80·7	75·6	77·8	83·1	73·1	5·55	E
Means ...	29·730	77·4	72·1	76·8	81·2	70·4	74·39	SE

J. S. NEILL,
His Britannic Majesty's Agent and Consul, Tonga.

NUKUALOFA, TONGA.
29th February, 1928.

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REPORT FOR 1928.

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TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1928.

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History and Geography.

The Kingdom of Tonga consists of three main groups of islands called respectively Tongatabu, Haapai, and Vavau, together with the outlying islands of Niuafoou, Niuatobutabu, and Tafahi. The main groups are situated between the 18th and 22nd degrees of South latitude and the 173rd and 176th degrees of West longitude and extend over an area of approximately 250 square miles.

The island of Niuatobutabu was discovered by the Dutch navigators, Schouten and Lemaire, in 1616. They did not visit the main groups. In 1643 Tongatabu was discovered by Tasman and from that year until 1767, when Wallis anchored at Niuatobutabu, there was no contact with the outside world. Captain Cook visited Tongatabu and the Haapai group in 1773 and again in 1777, and named the islands the Friendly Islands. Niuafoou was discovered by Captain Edwards in H.M.S. *Pandora* in the year 1791.

The early history of the Tongans is enshrouded in myth, but it is clearly established that there at one time existed two kings, a spiritual and a temporal. The power of the Tui Tonga, the spiritual king,

seems to have spread over a vast area of Polynesia, whence he received tribute. His office was hereditary. In course of time he divested himself of power and, while retaining his ceremonial position he delegated executive functions to a temporal sovereign. The office of the sacred king disappeared some sixty years ago and its powers passed to the temporal king. The ancient monuments of Tonga bear testimony to the might of the sacred kings. The royal tombs in Tonga consist of quadrilateral mounds, faced by huge blocks of stone, some of which rise in terraces to a height of 20 feet. The stones are coral, of immense weight, and can only have been placed in position by the concerted labour of a large body of men. During the first half of the nineteenth century the islands were the scene of civil wars. These were finally checked during the reign of George Tubou I, who had by conquest gathered all power into his own hands. He was finally proclaimed king in 1854. King George was an absolute ruler, but acting under missionary influence, he granted a Constitution to his people based on the English model. This Constitution was from time to time amended, yet in essentials the present Constitution differs but little from the original Constitution.

The first king died in 1893, after a memorable reign of nearly fifty years, and was succeeded by his great grandson. The present monarch, Queen Salote, succeeded to the throne on the death of her father, King George Tubou II, in 1918.

A Protectorate was proclaimed over Tonga in 1900, and a British Agent appointed.

English coin was made the currency of Tonga by a Statute passed by the Tongan Parliament in 1906. Tongan Government notes were issued in 1919 and at present notes to the value of £21,000 are in circulation. The issue is secured by a coin and investment reserve. English weights and measures are in use.

I.—GENERAL.

Falcon Island remained visible and its volcano in eruption during the year. This island, which lies about forty-five miles to the north of Tongatabu, was first observed as a breaking reef in the year 1865, and in 1885 it appeared as an island. Its area was continually changing and in 1894 it was 3 miles long, 1½ miles broad, and 50 feet high. It disappeared in the year 1898, and although it showed again in 1900, it disappeared altogether fourteen years ago. It was reported on the 1st October, 1927, to be erupting, and when observed a week later it was 1,730 yards long, north and south, 1,430 yards broad, east and west, and 305 feet high. The volcano played for one minute every twenty minutes and the eruption rose to a height of over 4,000 feet. The Premier and a party landed on the island in June, 1928, and planted the Tongan flag.

His Majesty's Ship *Veronica* visited Vavau and Haapai on surveying duty.

II.—FINANCE.

The Tongan financial year ends on the 30th June. The revenue and expenditure totals for each of the last five years are as follows :—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1923–24	81,023	61,796
1924–25	74,335	63,539
1925–26	91,696	68,759
1926–27	72,562	83,513
1927–28	86,626	83,208

There is no public debt and at the close of the last financial year the surplus funds of the country amounted to £121,202. This was raised by further investment to £130,702 at the end of 1928. These funds are invested in War Bonds, New Zealand, and Straits Settlements Stock, and in fixed deposit with the bank of New Zealand. There is no loan issue.

A Government Savings Bank was established in 1926. During 1928 deposits to the amount of £12,341 were received and withdrawals amounted to the sum of £9,713. There is no other bank in Tonga.

The principal sources of revenue are the Native Tax, import and export dues, trading licences, Court fees, rents of Government lands, and interest on investments.

All male Tongans when they attain the age of sixteen years pay a poll tax of 36*s.* per annum.

The general tariff on imported articles is 12½ per cent. *ad valorem* ; there are no preference duties. There is an export tax on copra of £1 per ton. The excess of revenue over expenditure of £3,418 in the financial year was mainly in customs duties, aided by an increase of 5*s.* per ton in the export duty on copra. There were substantial increases in Registration fees and Poll Tax.

III.—PRODUCTION.

The following table shows the quantity and value of copra exports for the five years ending 31st December last :—

Year.	*Tons.*	*Value.*
		£
1924	14,533	297,487
1925	13,758	280,386
1926	13,992	255,156
1927	11,252	225,344
1928	15,671	282,083

The decreased production in 1927 was due to the effect of the severe drought which prevailed during the latter half of 1925 and the first quarter of 1926.

Every Tongan landowner is compelled by law to have four acres of his tax allotment of $8\frac{1}{4}$ acres properly planted with coconuts. There is also a provision in the law to enforce the clearing of plantations.

A copra Act was passed in 1926, having for its object the improvement in copra manufacture, and it has been made a statutory offence for a trader to have bad or damaged copra in his possession.

Copra production is almost entirely carried on by the Tongans. There are only a few European planters in the islands. The Tongan Government do not encourage European settlement and, apart from this fact, the difficulty of obtaining labour would form an effective bar to development of the land by Europeans.

There is no forestry or fishing production, and there are no minerals.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The following table shows the value of the import and export trade during the last five years :—

Year.	*Imports.*	*Exports.*
	£	£
1924	232,600	306,658
1925	258,322	290,115
1926	227,882	263,198
1927	157,783	235,391
1928	211,907	287,668

The export trade is confined to copra. It is exported on optional bills of lading and is mostly sold on the Continent. Imports consist chiefly of drapery, hardware, flour, tinned meats, sugar, kerosene, benzine, timber, and gunny bags. The imports, apart from kerosene, benzine and timber, are of United Kingdom, Australian, and New Zealand origin. The following figures show the percentage of imports from foreign countries during the last five years :—

Year.	*Per Cent.*
1924	4
1925	8
1926	9
1927	11
1928	12

Of the rest of the imports the United Kingdom supplied 16 per cent., New Zealand 38 per cent., Australia 27 per cent., and other British possessions 7 per cent. The increase in foreign imports was mainly in Japanese goods. The volume of the import trade from the United Kingdom has not varied in any appreciable degree during the last five years. It consists mostly of drapery, hardware, drugs, and cement. Importations of the two former lines represent approximately 20 per cent. of total importations. There is a ready

market for Manchester prints, suitable for native clothing, and for other cotton wearing apparel moderately costed. There is a limited market for the British light motor-car. Benzine is retailed at 3*s*. 2*d*. per gallon and the advantages of the light car in the matter of running expenses are obvious. There are 188 motor vehicles registered in Tonga.

The leading commercial houses, viz., Messrs. Burns Philp (South Sea) Company, Limited, and Messrs. Morris Hedstrom, Limited, import through their London offices.

Tonga is overstocked with stores. Every village has its trading station, and in many cases two or three. The overhead charges of trading are high with a consequent reaction on the cost of commodities. There is a keen demand among traders for copra. The costs of the upkeep of the numerous sub-stations of the traders and the high handling charges reflect themselves on the price paid.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

There is monthly communication with Auckland by a vessel of the Union Steamship Company. This vessel, after calling at Fiji *en route*, visits the three principal islands in Tonga, and returns to Auckland via Samoa and Fiji. Tonga is 1,100 miles distant from Auckland, yet the journey, on account of the route followed, occupies a fortnight. The lack of direct communication with New Zealand, which existed before the war, is severely felt. The direct service every two months from the United Kingdom, via ports of the Clan Line was carried out during the year. Steamers or schooners, with oil and timber cargoes from the United States of America, called at irregular intervals. During the year 31 vessels from overseas of a total tonnage of 78,918 tons entered and cleared. Of this tonnage 49,875 tons was British, 14,578 Norwegian, 9,277 Swedish, and 4,346 American. Interinsular communication is carried out by the Tongan Government despatch vessel and sailing vessels.

There is a Tongan Government wireless station at Nukualofa and a sub-station at Vavau which communicates only with the main station. The Nukualofa radio communicates with Samoa and Fiji and thence by the Pacific Cable Board to all parts of the world. During the year the Nukualofa station forwarded 1,613 messages and received 1,218. The sub-station forwarded 1,212 messages and received 702. It is proposed to instal three more sub-stations during 1929. There is a telephone system, with 109 subscribers. It serves the township of Nukualofa.

There are 35 miles of metalled roads in Tongatabu suitable for motor traffic. The by-roads are earth roads and are not suitable for heavy traffic during the wet season. In Vavau the main roads have been metalled or tarred for a considerable distance. There are no railways in the islands.

Postal communication with the outside world is despatched monthly by the Union Company's steamer and by copra vessels. Interinsular mails are carried by the Government despatch vessel and by cutters. The Collectors of Customs act as Postmasters at Nukualofa, Haapai, and Vavau. British postal orders are issued at these offices, and money orders, for transmission through Australia, may also be obtained.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

There are two jurisdictions in Tonga. Under the provisions of the Treaty of 1900, civil jurisdiction over British subjects and foreigners is exercised by the British Agent, who holds a commission as a Deputy Commissioner of His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner's Court for the Western Pacific. In criminal matters British subjects and foreigners were until November, 1928, also subject to the jurisdiction of the High Commissioner's Court for offences other than offences against Tongan laws relating to Customs, Taxes, Public Health, and Police not cognisable as such under the provisions of the Pacific Order in Council. By an amendment in November, 1928, of the Treaty of 1900 the Tongan Courts were granted extended jurisdiction over British subjects and foreigners. A European Magistrate has been appointed in pursuance of this extended jurisdiction. The Agent is a Judicial Commissioner in Divorce. The judicial work of the Agent is light. During the year the Court sat on fifteen days.

The Courts of the Tongan Government have full jurisdiction over Tongans and a limited criminal jurisdiction over British subjects and foreigners. The Tongan judicial system is based on the British model, and trial by jury, in cases which come before the Supreme Court, is provided for in the Constitution. Serious crime among the Tongans is of infrequent occurrence and during the last five years the average number of persons convicted in the Supreme Court has been twenty. The Police Department is in charge of a Tongan Minister who is also the Public Prosecutor. Concurrent with the appointment of Chief Magistrate was that of Chief European Inspector of Police, who, besides reorganizing that force has relieved the Minister of Police from much of his prosecuting duties, especially where " foreigners " are involved. The Tongan Police, when called upon to do so, assist His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner's Court in making arrests and enforcing judgments. The Minister of Police is also in charge of prisons. There is one main prison in Nukualofa, at which all long-sentence prisoners are confined. There is also a gaol in Haapai and in Vavau. Prisoners are employed on road-making and other public works and in making copra and planting on Government plantations.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The work of this Department consisted mainly of the maintenance and extension of roads and maintenance of buildings and repairs. No work of special interest was undertaken.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

Progress has continued in matters of public health. The Tongan Government agreed to co-operate generally in carrying out the Resolutions adopted at the International Pacific Health Conference held in Melbourne in December, 1926. Thirteen Tongan lepers were in 1927 transferred to the Leper Asylum of the Fiji Government at Makogai. A Central Medical School was established in Fiji for the training of native medical practitioners and four students from Tonga have been selected and entered. The campaign for the erection of cement latrines throughout the islands is progressing steadily, and the work has been completed in most of the group. There are no rivers or streams in Tonga, and the rain-water supply is conserved in tanks. It is proposed to improve and add to the existing cement tanks in the villages. This campaign is an essential corollary to the latrine campaign.

Apart from the annual influenza epidemic, of a mild nature, and some typhoid and German measles, the incidence of sickness throughout the year was light.

There are three hospitals in Tonga. The main hospital at Nukualofa is well equipped. It consists of European and Tongan wards, in separate buildings, and a dispensary. The other hospitals are in Haapai and Vavau. They are suitable for local requirements. The Medical Department consists of four European medical officers, an ankylostomiasis officer, a European nurse, and a Tongan staff. The Tongans receive free medical attention. The Government pay a retaining fee to a dentist, and the Tongans receive free treatment in cases of extractions and temporary stoppings. They are also treated freely for pyorrhoea, the incidence of which is heavy. Provision was made for an expenditure of £9,441 on medical and health services. This sum is equivalent to 11.60 per cent. of the total estimated expenditure of the financial year.

The following figures show the vital statistics for the five years ending the 31st December, last :—

Year.	*Number of Births.*	*Birth-rate.*
1924	858	35.90
1925	866	35.60
1926	910	35.80
1927	976	37.65
1928	960	36.09
	Number of Deaths.	*Death-rate.*
1924	443	18.40
1925	592	24.35
1926	377	14.84
1927	297	11.07
1928	476	17.80

The infant mortality rate for the year was 64.90 per 1,000 births. Comparative figures of this rate are as follows :—

Year.	*Rate.*
1924	135.20
1925	295.60
1926	102.19
1927	37.90
1928	64.58

The estimated Tongan population at the end of the year was 27,097, an increase of 500 during the year.

IX.—EDUCATION.

Education is compulsory for all Tongans between the ages of six and fourteen years. The schools, in the Education Act, are divided into three types—primary, middle, and high. In the primary schools elementary education on a vernacular basis is provided. There are 73 Government and 39 denominational primary schools. The approximate average daily attendance throughout the year was 4,263. These schools are subject to inspection. The buildings of the Government primary schools are provided by the taxpayers of the village. Education is free. Instruction is given in the three R's, singing, and needlework. Middle schools are provided for in the Act for the purpose of providing an elementary education in English. It has not yet been found possible to establish any of these schools. The High schools provide a general secondary education. The principal High schools are the Government College, Tubou College, and the Roman Catholic School in Tongatabu. These schools are residential.

The staff at the Government College consists of three Europeans and five Tongans. The ordinary academic instruction is given and pupils are taught the correct methods of growing native crops at the College plantation. The number of pupils at the College averages 170. The Director of Education, who is also Principal of the College, conducts an annual course of instruction for head teachers in the primary schools during the long vacation. Evening classes in English for non-collegiates are also conducted throughout the year.

Tubou College is a Wesleyan Mission School which, in addition to its academic work, prepares teachers for the church primary schools. There are 61 pupils resident at the College. A European clergyman is in charge.

Games play an important part in the life of the colleges and the standard is high. The Tongan is a keen rugby footballer and a particularly good tennis player. The college brass bands are an interesting feature of Tongan school life. The pupils respond readily to training. Secondary education for girls, apart from missionary effort, is undeveloped.

A scholarship scheme was inaugurated during 1927 under which Tongan students from the colleges proceed abroad for secondary and university education. The value of the scholarships will not exceed £150 and £200 at secondary schools and the University respectively. It is intended to limit the number of scholars, at any one time, to five. One scholar was elected, after competitive examination, during 1927 and he has entered a public school in Australia, where at the end of 1928 he was joined by a further exhibitioner. Another was included amongst the four medical students admitted to the Central Medical School at Fiji.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

The Tongan land system is, in many respects, unique. All land is the property of the Crown, but large estates have been divided out among the nobles. Every Tongan, when he attains the age of sixteen and thereby becomes a taxpayer, is entitled to a tax allotment of 8¼ acres in the bush and a town site. He obtains the grant on application to the Minister of Lands. He pays an annual rental of 8*s*. for his tax allotment and no rent for his townsite. The Minister grants the allotment out of the estate of the noble on which the applicant resides, and if land is not available a grant of Government land is made. Provision is made in the law for ejectment for non-payment of rent or for failing to comply with the planting laws. The interest of Tongans in land, whether they are the holders of hereditary estates or of tax allotments, is a life interest and alienation is expressly forbidden. Leasing is subject to Government control. Devolution is specially provided for.

It is a curious fact that many Tongans do not take advantage of their statutory right to land. At the beginning of 1927 there were 5,545 allotments held and 703 taxpayers had not applied for allotment. This latter class live in the towns or on their father's cultivated allotment to which they hope in time to succeed. No Tongan can hold two tax allotments and this fact, together with the neglect of taxpayers to apply for an allotment, retards economic development. The law provides that a Tongan may, instead of applying for a tax allotment, with its definite area, apply for an ordinary lease. This is a new phase of the law and it is not possible as yet to state now it will in fact operate. An allotment holder may also be granted a lease and a condition precedent to grant is a well-cultivated allotment. Though, in law, the area of the statutory allotment is limited to 8¼ acres, instances are numerous in which this area is exceeded. The reasons for this departure from the theory of the system may be historical—the area held representing an old feudal grant.

It is beyond the limits of this report to sketch, except in the barest outline, this interesting system. It is incapable of precise legal definition. It is simple in its operation though its examination obscures its simplicity. It is an example of a system grafted upon the polity of a native people, a creature of law rather than of custom.

The survey work performed by the Government surveyors during the year consisted in defining hereditary estates and in demarcating tax and town allotments. Lease surveys were also executed.

XI.—LABOUR.

The number of labourers employed in Tonga is negligible. There are a few Solomon Islanders, Fijians, and Indians working on plantations or in the stores. The wages of these labourers averages £5 a month with food. The Tongans labour at irregular intervals. They receive approximately 8*s*. a day and they are difficult to obtain. Tongan girls are employed as house servants at a wage of £2 10*s*. to £3 a month. A good cook is unobtainable in Tonga and it is necessary to introduce them from Fiji.

XII.—METEOROLOGICAL.

The climate of the Tongan Group from May to November is good for the tropics. The thermometer rarely registers higher than 80 degrees and the humidity, during these months is, as a rule, relatively low. During the wet season, from December to April, the temperature rarely rises above 90 degrees, but the humidity is high. The wet season is trying for Europeans. There is, however, no malaria. The following figures set out the meteorological summary for the year. As regards humidity, the maxima and minima shown are as observed at 9 a.m. The highest humidity recorded was 97 per cent. on the 13th November. The temperatures shown are the true extremes as the instruments used are self-recording.

Month.	*Bar.*	*Dry Bulb.*	*Wet Bulb.*	*Rel. Hum.*	*Max.*	*Min.*	*R'fall.*	*Wind.*
January ...	29·801	80·5	73·2	69·4	83·6	71·7	3·27	SE
February ...	29·908	80·1	74·7	76·6	82·8	72·6	7·09	ESE
March ...	29·884	81·8	77·1	79·9	84·6	75·3	8·43	SE
April ...	29·989	78·2	72·1	74·0	81·2	70·2	3·74	ESE
May	29·968	77·2	73·4	83·0	81·1	69·8	4·47	ESE
June... ...	29·982	72·9	67·0	70·4	78·0	63·5	2·23	SSE
July	29·985	70·9	66·1	75·6	75·4	62·1	8·26	SE
August ...	29·062	71·2	67·2	80·0	75·4	65·7	10·31	SE
September ...	30·042	73·9	68·7	75·7	77·4	66·2	1·16	SE
October ...	29·975	75·9	68·9	70·0	79·7	66·5	0·17	SE
November ...	29·828	75·7	69·4	73·1	79·2	67·4	5·30	SE
December ...	29·882	80·2	76·4	84·0	83·1	72·7	4·20	E
Means ...	29·951	76·5	71·2	76·0	80·1	68·6	58·63	SE

W. E. RUSSELL,
His Britannic Majesty's Acting Agent and Consul, Tonga.

NUKUALOFA, TONGA,
26th March, 1929.

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REPORT FOR 1929.

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TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1929.

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History and Geography.

The Kingdom of Tonga consists of three main groups of islands called respectively Tongatabu, Haabai, and Vavau, together with the outlying islands of Niuafoou, Niuatobutabu, and Tafahi. The main groups are situated between the 18th and 22nd degrees of South latitude and the 173rd and 176th degrees of West longitude and extend over an area of approximately 250 square miles.

The island of Niuatobutabu was discovered by the Dutch Navigators, Schouten and Lemaire, in 1616. They did not visit the main groups. In 1643 Tongatabu was discovered by Tasman and from that year until 1767, when Wallis anchored at Niuatobutabu, there was no contact with the outside world. Captain Cook visited Tongatabu and the Haabai group in 1773 and again in 1777, and named the islands the Friendly Islands. Niuafoou was discovered by Captain Edwards in H.M.S. *Pandora* in the year 1791.

The early history of Tonga is enshrouded in myth, and any attempt to reconstruct the past is based on the list of the Tui Tonga, the ancient kings. This list has been compiled by ethnologists and dates back to the 10th century. The extent of the dominions of these ancient kings is not clearly known, but there is evidence that they

possessed overlordship over a vast area of Polynesia, whence they received tribute. The kingship was hereditary and the power of the Tui Tonga was absolute. About the 15th century, after the murder of a Tui Tonga, his successor, while retaining his sacred powers, divested himself of much of his executive authority which he transferred to his brother whom he henceforth called the Tui Haatakalaua. At this time it may be said that there were two kings in Tonga, the spiritual and the temporal. About the middle of the 17th century the temporal king transferred his executive power to a brother, retaining for himself the presentation of offerings from his people. The new chief was called the Tui Kanokupolu, and succession to the title, though not hereditary, was kept within the family. From the date of the creation of the new title the powers of the Tui Tonga and the Tui Haatakalaua gradually passed into the hands of the Tui Kanokupolu and in the middle of the 19th century, upon the death of the then Tui Tonga, the insignia of the ancient title of the Tui Tonga were conferred upon the Tui Kanokupolu, King George I, the founder of the reigning dynasty. While the evolution of a sacred line of chiefs is not without historic parallel, the double delegation of powers renders difficult the true understanding of the ancient Tongan polity.

Evidence remains in modern Tonga of the power of the ancient kings in the form of the stone monuments which still exist. Chief of these is the Haamonga—a trilithion consisting of two large coral upright stones about 16 feet high, with a connecting stone, 19 feet long, laid horizontally across and mortised into the tops of the upright pieces the visible parts of which are estimated to weigh between 30 and 40 tons. It was probably erected about the 13th century. Tradition is not consistent as to the reason which impelled the then Tui Tonga to erect this monument, but it is evidentiary of an absolute power. Its state of preservation is excellent. Other evidence of the powers of the ancient kings is to be found in the langis, the royal burial grounds, which still exist in Tonga. They consist of quadrilateral mounds, faced by huge blocks of stone, rising sometimes in terraces to a height of 20 feet. The stones are coral, of immense weight, and can only have been placed in position by the concerted labour of a large body of men skilled in the use of rollers and levers. The stones out of which the monuments were constructed were probably quarried from the coral reefs, though there is a strong traditionary evidence that many of them came from distant Polynesian islands.

From the close of the 18th century the history of Tonga can be obtained from the chronicles of Europeans who visited the islands or from European missionary sources. During the first half of the 19th century the islands were the scene of civil wars. These were finally checked during the reign of King George I who had by conquest gathered all power into his own hands. He was finally proclaimed King in 1845. King George I came strongly under

missionary influence and, though his rule was absolute, he determined to grant a Constitution, based on the English model, to the Tongans. This Constitution, granted over fifty years ago, has been from time to time amended, yet in essentials the present Constitution differs little from the original. King George died in 1893, at the age of ninety-six, after a memorable reign of nearly fifty years. He was the creator of modern Tonga. He was succeeded by his great grandson, King George II. The present monarch, Queen Salote Tubou, succeeded to the throne on the death of King George II in 1918.

A Protectorate was proclaimed over Tonga in 1900 and a British Agent appointed.

The language of the group is Tongan, though the laws and Government Gazettes are published in both English and Tongan.

British coin was made the currency of Tonga by a Statute passed by the Tongan Parliament in 1906. Tongan Government notes were issued in 1919; at the present time notes to the value of £21,268 are in circulation. The issue is secured by a coin and investment reserve.

British weights and measures are in use.

I.—GENERAL.

Under the Constitution of Tonga the Government is divided into three bodies, the Queen, Privy Council, and Cabinet; the Legislative Assembly; and the Judiciary. The chief executive body is the Queen in Council and executive decisions of lesser import are taken in Cabinet over which the Premier presides. The law making power is vested in the Assembly which consists of the members of the Privy Council, seven nobles elected by their peers, and seven representatives elected by the people. Elections are held triennially. A limited law making power is vested in the Privy Council; any legislation passed by the Executive is subject to review at the next meeting of the Legislature. At present the technical and financial departments are administered by European members of the Tongan civil service, and Tongan ministers control the other departments. The northern group of islands, Haapai and Vavau, together with the outlying islands, are administered by Tongan Governors who are members of, and responsible to, the executive. No constitutional changes took place during the year nor did any events of a general political nature occur.

An event of scientific interest during the year was the recurrence of volcanic activity at Niuafoou, a small island about three hundred miles distance from Tongatabu. During the last eighty years the craters have been in active eruption at average intervals of about fifteen years. The period of intense activity of the outbreak last year was three days. Though a town was completely destroyed there was fortunately no loss of life. As a result of the last two eruptions approximately one-third of the cultivated land on the island has been destroyed.

Falcon Island, which lies about forty miles to the north of Tongatabu, has erupted throughout the year. This island first appeared in the year 1885. Its area has continually changed and it disappeared altogether sixteen years ago. It reappeared in 1927 and after a few days of eruption it was approximately a mile in length and breadth and 300 feet in height. At the present time its area is slightly greater.

The Protectorate was visited during the year by His Majesty's ships, *Diomede*, *Veronica* and *Laburnum*.

II.—FINANCE.

The Tongan financial year ends on the 30th June. The revenue and expenditure totals for each of the last five years are as follows :—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1924–25	74,335	63,539
1925–26	91,696	68,759
1926–27	72,562	83,513
1927–28	86,626	83,208
1928–29	96,887	76,709

There is no public debt, and at the close of the last financial year the surplus funds of the country amounted to £144,189. These funds are invested in War Bonds, New Zealand, and Straits Settlements Stock, and in fixed deposits with the Bank of New Zealand.

A Government Savings Bank was established in 1926. The following statistics show the operations of the bank since its institution :—

Year.	*Deposits.*	*Withdrawals.*
	£	£
1926	3,495	558
1927	7,929	3,900
1928	12,341	9,713
1929	11,359	8,528

There is no other bank in Tonga.

The principal sources of revenue are the native tax, customs trading licenses, court fees, rents of Government lands, and interes on investments.

All male Tongans, when they attain the age of sixteen years, pay a poll tax of 36s. per annum. Exemption from this tax may be granted on grounds of old age or sickness.

The general tariff on imported goods is 12½ per cent. *ad valorem* ; there are no preferential duties. There is an export tax on copra at the rate of £1 per ton.

There were no changes during the year in the method of raising revenue or in the incidence of taxation.

III.—PRODUCTION.

Copra is the sole agricultural product exported from the Tongan group. Prior to the War there was a considerable fruit trade with New Zealand but the absence of direct communication with the Dominion, which ceased during the War, has killed the trade. The soil throughout the group is very fertile and in Tongatabu European vegetables of most summer varieties are easily grown except during the hot months of December to April. Native root crops, of excellent quality, are produced in abundance for domestic use.

The following table shows the quantity and value of copra exports for the five years ending the 31st December last :—

Year.	*Tons.*	*Value.* £
1925	13,758	280,386
1926	13,992	255,156
1927	11,252	225,344
1928	15,671	282,083
1929	16,861	252,911

The quantity exported during the year 1929 is the highest recorded in Tonga except during the year 1919. Figures for this latter year are misleading as there was a large carry over of the crop from the previous year which could not be exported owing to transport difficulties. The slump in market values has affected severely the value of the crop. Copra production is almost entirely carried on by the Tongans. There are only a few European planters in the islands. The Tongan Government does not encourage European settlement and, apart from this fact, the difficulty of obtaining labour would form an effective bar to development of the land by Europeans.

Under the Land Law of the country, to which reference is made below, every Tongan land holder, as an incidence of tenure, is under obligation to plant one-half of his holding in coconuts. Provision is further made that the trees should be properly spaced, thirty feet apart, and planted in rows.

Legislation exists having for its object the improvement in the quality of copra produced and it is an offence for a trader to have in his possession bad or damaged copra.

There is no forestry or fishing production. Whales are frequently observed in the group during the season. A European whaler, who lives in the islands, harpoons them from time to time and sells the flesh as foodstuff. There is no export of the oil.

There are no minerals.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The following table shows the value of the import and export trade during the last five years :—

Year.	*Imports.*	*Exports.*
	£	£
1925	258,322	290,115
1926	227,882	263,198
1927	157,783	235,391
1928	211,907	287,668
1929	198,078	259,090

The export trade is confined to copra. It is exported on optional bills of lading and is mostly sold on the Continent. Imports consist chiefly of drapery, hardware, flour, tinned meats, sugar, kerosene, benzine, timber, and gunny bags. The imports, apart from kerosene, benzine, and timber are of United Kingdom, Australian or New Zealand origin. The following figures show the percentage of imports from foreign countries :—

Year.	*Per Cent.*
1925	8
1926	9
1927	11
1928	12
1929	14

Of the rest of the imports during 1929 the United Kingdom supplied 18 per cent., New Zealand 33 per cent., Australia 24 per cent., and other British possessions 11 per cent.

There was little change in the general incidence of the import trade during the year. The volume of trade from the United Kingdom has not varied in any appreciable extent during the last five years. It is, however, greater than statistics indicate as goods of United Kingdom origin, which are imported from New Zealand, Australia or Fiji, are classified in the Customs Returns of the Tongan Government as imports from the latter countries. The principal imports from the United Kingdom consist of drapery, hardware, and drugs. Importations of drapery and hardware represent approximately 30 per cent. of the total imports of the year. There is a ready market for Manchester prints, suitable for native clothing, and for other cotton wearing apparel reasonably costed. The market for galvanized roofing is increasing owing to the tendency of the Tongans to substitute wooden houses for thatched cottages. There is a limited market for the British light motor car. Benzine is retailed at 3s. per gallon and the advantages of the low horse-powered car in the matter of running expenses are obvious. At

the end of the year there were 105 private cars and 94 commercial vehicles registered in Tonga. Of these only 11 cars and one lorry were British. Tinned meats are of New Zealand origin, flour Australian, and gunny bags, used for sacking copra, Indian. During the year these bags to the value of £11,400 were imported.

The leading commercial houses, viz., Messrs. Burns Philp (South Sea) Company, Limited, and Messrs. Morris Hedstrom, Limited, import from the United Kingdom through their London offices.

Tonga is overstocked with small stores. Every village has its trading station and in many cases two or three. The overhead charges of trading are high with a consequent reaction on the cost of commodities. There is a keen demand among traders for copra. The cost of the upkeep of the numerous sub-stations of the traders and the high handling charges reflect themselves on the price paid.

Wages and Cost of Living.

It is difficult to draw a comparison between the cost of living in the United Kingdom and Tonga on account of the general difference in conditions. The quantum of the tariff, imposed for revenue purposes, has been referred to above. There is, on the other hand, no income tax. Supplies of fresh meat, milk, eggs, poultry, and ice are available at Nukualofa, the seat of Government. In outlying islands, fresh meat and ice are not procurable. Excellent vegetables are obtainable in Nukualofa, except during the months of December to April, at reasonable rates. Domestic servants are expensive. Tongan men do not engage in domestic service and Tongan girls receive a wage of about £3 *per mensem*, and food. Indian cooks from Fiji, when procurable, receive a wage of £6 to £7 *per mensem*, with food, and in addition their fares from Fiji to Tonga are paid by their employer. The following table shows the current prices of certain necessary commodities :—

Sugar	6d. per lb.
Tea	4s. ,,
Butter	2s. 6d. ,,
Flour	3d. ,,
Onions	4d. ,,
Eggs	2s. 6d. per dozen.
Bacon	2s. per lb.
Bread	1s. per 2 lb. loaf.
Meat	1s. per lb.
Poultry	3s. a fowl.
Kerosene	23s. per 8-gallon case.

The household budget will, on the whole, be 20 per cent. to 25 per cent. higher in Tonga than in the United Kingdom.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

There is monthly communication with Auckland by a vessel of the Union Steamship Company. This vessel, after calling at Fiji *en route*, visits three ports in Tonga and returns to Auckland via Samoa and Fiji. A call is made at Niuafoou on the voyage from Samoa to Fiji for mail purposes. The mail is carried to and from the ship by swimmers as anchorage at the island is impossible. Tonga is 1,100 miles distant from Auckland yet the journey, on account of the route followed, occupies a fortnight. Lack of direct communication with the Dominion, which existed before the War, is severely felt. In addition to the monthly mail steamer, thirteen overseas vessels visited the Protectorate during the year for copra cargoes. Of these nine were British, two Swedish, and two Norwegian. Four of the British Steamers, which belonged to the Clan Line, carried cargo from the United Kingdom to Tonga via ports. One American and two Panamanian steamers, with oil and lumber cargo, also called during the year. The total tonnage of overseas vessels entered and cleared amounted to 143,068 tons. Of this total 112,808 tons was British, 10,589 Norwegian, and 8,589 Swedish.

Inter-insular communication is maintained by two Tongan Government despatch boats. They are small auxiliary ships fitted with semi-diesel engines.

The Tongan Government maintain a wireless station at Nukualofa and a sub-station at Vavau which communicates only with the main station. The Nukualofa radio communicates with Samoa and Fiji and thence to all parts of the world. During the year the Nukualofa station forwarded 1,762 messages and received 1,385. The sub-station at Vavau forwarded 1,327 messages and received 795.

The Nukualofa station was modernized during the year and new offices erected for the staff. Provision was made for erecting sub-stations at Haapai, Niuafoou, and Niuatobutabu and the Superintendent of Telegraphs is training eight Tongans to act as operators. The course embraces telegraphy, instruction in operating and maintenance of plant, a knowledge of International Regulations governing the handling of telegrams, and general clerical duties. The new sub-stations will be equipped with locally built continuous wave valve transmitters rated at 20 watts input. The power supplied for the valves will be furnished by a battery of Leclanche type primary cells. The average cost of the equipment, installed and ready for operation, is £75. Maintenance charges will be negligible. It is hoped to have the system in operation in a few months. The Tongan trainees have shown aptitude for the work.

There is a telephone system in Tongatabu which serves the township of Nukualofa. There are 92 subscribers.

There are 40 miles of metalled road in Tongatabu suitable for motor traffic. The by-roads are graded earth roads; they are unsuitable for heavy traffic in the wet season. Construction work is proceeding at Vavau and the main earth roads are being metalled.

There are no railways in the islands.

Postal communication with the outside world is maintained by the monthly vessel of the Union Steamship Company. Foreign mails are also despatched by copra vessels. Inter-insular mails are carried by the Government despatch vessels. The Collectors of Customs act as Postmasters at the three ports. There are sub-post offices in the main villages of Tongatabu. British postal orders are issued at the three chief post offices. Money orders, for transmission through Australia, are also issued.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

There are two jurisdictions in Tonga, the British and the Tongan.

The British Agent holds a commission as a Deputy Commissioner of His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner's Court for the Western Pacific. He is a Judicial Commissioner in Divorce. Under the provisions of the Treaty of 1900 jurisdiction in civil matters is exercised by the British Court over British subjects and foreigners. The British Court has jurisdiction in Probate and Divorce matters where British subjects and foreigners are parties. In criminal cases British subjects and foreigners charged with an offence against the Laws of Tonga, not including crimes punishable by death or by imprisonment exceeding two years, are amenable to the jurisdiction of the Courts of Tonga. The reserved cases are justiciable in the British Court.

The jurisdiction of the British Court is exercised in conformity with the provisions of the Pacific Order in Council of 1893. The principles of British law, so far as circumstances admit, are applied. The judicial work of the British Agent is light. During the year four criminal and fifteen civil cases were heard and determined, two grants of probate issued, and two divorce petitions were heard.

The Courts of the Tongan Government have full jurisdiction over Tongans and the limited jurisdiction stated above over British subjects and foreigners. The Tongan judicial system is based on the British model, and trial by jury, in cases where the accused are Tongans, is provided for in the Constitution.

The Justice Department of the Government of Tonga consists of the Chief Justice, the Land Judge, a European Magistrate, and three Tongan Magistrates. The Supreme Court exercises jurisdiction in all civil cases in which the amount claimed exceeds £50 and in all criminal cases where the maximum penalty exceeds a fine of £50 or two years' imprisonment. Other cases are heard in the Magistrate's Court. Where the person charged is a European the case is heard and determined by the European Magistrate if it comes within magisterial jurisdiction ; other cases are tried by the Chief Justice sitting with two European assessors.

The Land Court Judge, sitting with a Tongan assessor, hears and determines land claims.

Serious crime among the Tongan people is of infrequent occurrence.

The following table shows the number of indictments which have been tried by the Chief Justice during the last five years :—

Year.	*Number of Indictments.*	*Convictions.*
1925	20	14
1926	32	27
1927	35	30
1928	31	26
1929	34	30

The following table shows the number of criminal cases heard and determined in the Magistrate's Courts during the last five years :—

Year.	*No. of Cases.*	*Convictions.*	*Acquittals.*
1925	7,249	5,757	1,492
1926	5,843	4,441	1,402
1927	5,805	4,520	1,285
1928	4,645	3,507	1,138
1929	4,646	3,270	1,376

The figures for 1925 include cases for non-payment of the native tax, horse tax and town tax and are therefore not of value for statistical purposes.

The majority of the criminal cases heard in the Magistrate's Courts were for minor municipal and traffic offences.

There is a considerable amount of civil litigation among the Tongans. During the year 8,859 writs issued out of the Magistrate's Courts.

There is an appeal from a Magistrate's decision to the Chief Justice in all civil cases and in every criminal case except when the defendant pleads guilty.

During the year the Chief Justice heard twenty appeals, fourteen criminal and six civil. In the criminal appeals the sentences imposed in the Magistrate's Courts were affirmed in eight cases, varied in one, and reversed in five. In the civil actions the Magistrates' decisions were reversed or varied in five cases.

There are twenty-six Tongan lawyers practising in the Courts. Licenses to practice are issued by the Chief Justice. There is no educational qualification imposed, but the Chief Justice has a discretionary power to refuse to issue a license to undesirable persons.

Police.

The Police Department is in charge of a Tongan Minister who is also the Public Prosecutor. The Department has a strength of one European Inspector, three Tongan Inspectors, and forty-two non-commissioned officers and men. The Tongan police, when called upon to do so, assist His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner's Court in making arrests and enforcing judgments.

In addition to ordinary police duties, the force is responsible for the execution of many miscellaneous duties such as motor registrations, the census, inspection of villages and road frontages.

Prisons.

The Minister of Police is in charge of the prisons. There is a main gaol at Nukualofa with sub-gaols at Haabai and Vavau. The staff of the Department consists of two Chief Gaolers and seven warders. Prisoners are employed on road making and other public works and in making copra and planting foodstuffs on Government plantations.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The activities of the Department consisted mainly in road development and maintenance work and in the maintenance and repair of public buildings. No work of special interest was undertaken during the year.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The Medical Department of the Tongan Government consists of four medical officers, a dentist, a European nurse, and a Tongan staff. Four Tongan students are in residence at the Central Medical School, Fiji.

The Tongans receive free medical attention. Other patients are charged fees on a scale laid down by the Executive. Fees are paid direct into revenue. The dentist receives a retaining fee from the Government. Tongans receive free treatment in cases of extractions and temporary stoppings. They are also treated freely for pyorrhoea, the incidence of which is heavy.

Provision was made for an expenditure of £9,700 on medical and health services. This sum is equivalent to 11.8 per cent. of the total estimated expenditure for the year.

There are three hospitals in Tonga. The main hospital at Nukualofa is well equipped. It consists of European and Tongan wards, in separate buildings, and a dispensary. The other hospitals are in Haapai and Vavau. They are suitable for local requirements.

The incidence of sickness throughout the year was light.

The following table shows the nature of the diseases treated during the year and the number of cases :—

Disease.	*Nukualofa.*	*Haapai.*	*Vavau.*	*Total.*
Conjunctivitis ...	120	346	9	475
Trachoma	53	18	—	71
Gonorrhoea	11	5	25	41
Yaws	256	211	176	643
Typhoid Fever ...	14	52	14	80
Puerperal Fever ...	2	3	2	7
Dysentery	91	20	9	120
Tuberculosis	67	25	106	198
Pneumonia	54	24	63	141
Influenzal Pneumonia	4	—	54	58
Influenza	1,376	1,252	1,254	3,882
Croup	2	2	—	4
Measles	—	26	6	32
German Measles ...	9	—	16	25
Paretitis	3	—	—	3
Varicella	20	2	—	22
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	—	—	1

Dispensary attendances amounted to 12,827 in Nukualofa, 7,483 in Haapai and 5,669 in Vavau.

Injections for yaws were given in 2,146 cases and typhoid inoculations in 909.

During the year 65 major and 2,200 minor operations were performed at the hospitals.

The usual incidence of influenza was shown—viz., March to April and August to September.

There was a marked reduction in the number of typhoid cases from 199 in 1928 to 80 last year.

The dysentery reported was of the bacillary type. It was not very virulent.

The incidence of tuberculosis shows little variation. The cases seen were mostly pulmonary.

The number of reported cases of yaws, viz., 643, shows a reduction of 487 on the figures for the year 1928. Injections of Novarsenobillon were given. As the results of this treatment continue to be satisfactory the Department has not tried any of the newer remedies.

During the year the Government Dentist examined and treated 558 patients. The total number of operations performed was 1,095 of which 343 were for the treatment of pyorrhoea alveolaris.

As regards sanitation the work of erecting cement latrines has been practically completed. Progress, though slow, is being made in the construction of cement tanks for water conservation. This is a necessary corollary to the latrine campaign in a country which depends entirely on its rainfall for a water supply. There are no rivers or streams in Tonga. The effect of the improved sanitation and water supply is evidenced in the Haapai group where the incidence of

typhoid and dysentery has been heavy in previous years. A considerable amount of improvements have been effected in the cisterns and catchment areas in that group and the number of cases of typhoid and dysentery were reduced from 138 and 63 in 1928 to 52 and 20 respectively in the year under review.

Malaria is unknown in Tonga.

Vital Statistics.

The following figures show the vital statistics for the five years ending the 31st December last :—

Year.	*Number of Births.*	*Birth Rate.*
1925	866	35·60
1926	910	35·80
1927	976	37·65
1928	960	36·09
1929	1,010	37·25

As regards the sexes of the children born, the following table shows the proportion for the last five years :—

Year.	*Males.*	*Females.*
1925	1,002·3	1,000
1926	1,002·1	1,000
1927	1,029·1	1,000
1928	1,111·8	1,000
1929	1,048·8	1,000

The illegitimate births amounted to 197. The following table shows the proportion of illegitimate births to every 100 births during the last five years :—

Year.	*Percentage.*
1925	15·09
1926	18·79
1927	15·47
1928	18·54
1929	19·52

The following table shows the number of deaths and the death rate for the last five years :—

Year.	*Number of Deaths.*	*Death Rate.*
1925	592	24·35
1926	377	14·84
1927	297	11·07
1928	476	17·80
1929	424	15·65

The infant mortality rate for the year was 71·42 per mille of births and 16·98 per cent. of the total deaths. Comparative figures of this rate are as follows :—

Year.	*In per cent. of Deaths.*	*In per mille of Births.*
1925	49·30	295·60
1926	24·50	102·19
1927	11·10	37·90
1928	19·90	64·58
1929	16·98	71·42

The following table sets out the total number of marriages performed and the marriage rate for the last five years :—

Year.	*Total Number.*	*Rate per mille of population*
1925	244	9·20
1926	237	9·33
1927	252	9·64
1928	238	8·94
1929	286	10·55

The estimated population at the end of the year was 27,660, an increase of 584 during the year. The European population is 440.

IX.—EDUCATION.

Education is compulsory for all Tongans between the ages of six and fourteen years. The schools, under the Education Act, are divided into three types, primary, middle, and high. The primary schools provide an elementary education in the vernacular. There are 73 Government and 38 denominational primary schools. The approximate average daily attendance throughout the year was 4,300. The total Tongan population is approximately 26,500. Of this total 7,500 are taxpayers, i.e., males over the age of sixteen years. The number of males and females in the country is approximately the same. If, therefore, allowance is made for the children who have not reached school age and those between the ages of 14 and 16 years it will be seen that practically all Tongans between the ages of six and fourteen attend the primary schools. These schools provide an education in accordance with a Government syllabus and are subject to inspection. Elementary instruction is given in the three Rs, history of Tonga, geography, hygiene, singing, needlework, and native arts. The buildings of the Government primary schools are provided and maintained by the taxpayers. Education is free.

It has not yet been possible to establish the middle schools provided for in the Act. At these an elementary education on an English basis

will be given. In several of the primary schools elementary instruction in English is at present carried out.

The High Schools provide a general secondary education. The principal High Schools are the Government College, Tubou College, and the Roman Catholic School in Tongatabu. These schools are residential.

The staff at the Government College consists of three European and five Tongan masters and a Tongan Bandmaster. The ordinary academic subjects are taught and pupils receive instruction at the College plantation in the correct method of growing native crops.

The number of boys at the College at the end of the year was 203. The College Brass Band during term gives a weekly recital in the War Memorial Band Rotunda in Nukualofa and plays on official occasions.

The Director of Education, who is also Principal of the College, conducts an annual course of instruction at the College for head teachers from primary schools during the long vacation. Instruction is practical and theoretical and the results have proved useful.

Tubou College is a free Wesleyan Mission School which, in addition to its academic work, prepares teachers for the church primary schools. There were 127 boys in residence at the end of the year. A European clergyman is in charge and sound educational work is done. An interesting feature of the activity of the College during the year was the opening of a Museum. A collection of ancient Tongan weapons, tools and historic relics has been made which will form the basis of a Tongan Museum.

A lending library of English books for the use of old boys has been formed.

Games play an important part in the life of the Colleges and the standard is high. The Tongan is a keen rugby footballer and cricketer and a particularly good tennis player. Both the Government College and Tubou College possess excellent playing fields and the sports rivalry is keen.

Secondary education for girls, apart from Missionary effort, is undeveloped. The Free Wesleyan Church have a girls college at Nukualofa. There are 57 girls in residence. The staff consists of three European ladies with Tongan assistants.

No provision is made by Government for the education of European children in the islands. The Missions, however, have schools which the children attend. At these schools instruction of an elementary type only is given.

A scholarship scheme was inaugurated in 1927 under which Tongan students from the high schools proceed abroad for higher education. At present two scholars are in residence at Newington College, Australia, and a third scholar has entered the Central Medical School, Fiji. The value of the scholarships is £150 per annum at Newington College and £100 per annum at the Medical School.

Expenditure on educational services amounted to £7,000. This sum is equivalent to 8·55 per cent. of the total expenditure of the year.

The Government of Tonga agreed during the year to participate in the scheme for the creation of the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

The Tongan land system is, in many respects, unique. In historic times the Tongan lived on his farm rather than in village communities, and the communal land ownership which is met with in parts of the Pacific is unknown in Tonga. In the 18th century the troubled condition of the land drove the peasant proprietors to take refuge together in fortresses and out of these fortresses the modern village has grown. The remains of many old trenches exist to-day. Although the necessity for living together for purposes of mutual protection disappeared in the middle of last century, the people did not revert to their old mode of life and the town is now an accepted part of Tongan polity.

The historic system of land tenure was feudal. The great chiefs held of the King and they sub-divided their lands among their followers. Through the chiefs the King received tribute and they in turn exacted feudal dues from the people. In the first Constitution of Tonga, granted by the King over fifty years ago, it was expressly enacted that the Kingdom was the King's. The King, however, confirmed in their ancestral holdings the high chiefs and out of the royal and chiefs' estates holdings were granted to the people. In course of time a grant which was made in return for service in cash or kind became the right of the people and a law was passed which entitled every Tongan, when he became a taxpayer, to two holdings, a house site in the village and tax lands in the bush.

It is not possible, within the limits of this report, to develop further the evolution of the Tongan land system ; it is felt, however, that a brief reference to the land system of the past is necessary before the present system of tenure is shortly described.

Every Tongan male, when he attains the age of sixteen and thereby becomes a taxpayer, is entitled to a tax allotment of 8¼ acres in the bush and a town site of 132 square yards. He obtains the grant upon application to the Minister of Lands. The Minister makes the allotment from the estate of the chief on which the applicant resides. If land is not available on such estate the allotment is made from the estate of another chief who is willing to provide it. If no allotment is made under this latter provision, Crown land is utilized. If the applicant is already resident on Crown land, the allotment is made therefrom in the first place. The rental for the tax allotment is 8*s*. per annum. It is paid to the Crown or the chief according to where the allotment is made. No rent is charged for the village site.

Provision is made in law for ejectment for non-payment of rent or for a non-compliance with the planting section of the law. It is mandatory on every holder, as an incidence of tenure, within one year of the grant to plant 200 coconut trees on his allotment, properly spaced as provided by law. Provision is made for the survey and registration of grants. Upon the death of a holder his widow is entitled to a life estate in the allotment and devolution is expressly provided for. No Tongan may hold two tax allotments, but he may obtain a lease of an extra area.

Provision was made in 1927 to enable a Tongan to receive, upon application made, in lieu of the grants referred to, an area of $12\frac{3}{8}$ acres of tax land in the bush for which he pays a rental of 4s. If he obtains such allotment, he is not eligible for a town site. It is hoped by reducing the rental and increasing the area to induce the people to live on the land rather than in the village. Only ten such allotments have, so far, been applied for.

Without the consent of the Government no chief or allotment holder may grant a lease or make any agreement in respect of his land. The mortgaging of growing crops is illegal.

It is a curious fact that many Tongans do not take advantage of their statutory right to land. There is no compulsion to apply. At the present time allotments are held by 6,916 taxpayers, and 558 widows; there are 797 taxpayers who have not applied for an allotment. The non-holders have increased by 146 during the year. These persons live in the towns or on their father's cultivated allotment to which they hope in time to succeed. In other cases there is a disinclination to leave an island which is fully settled. Ample land is available for a full development of the land system and if every taxpayer was an allotment holder approximately one-half of the area of the country is still available for distribution.

The interest of a Tongan in land, whether he is a chief or a commoner, is a life estate. His ownership is limited in point of disposition; it possesses certain attributes of an estate in fee tail which the holder for life cannot bar. The land system is of interest as being an example of a system grafted by law upon the polity of a people and becoming a leading feature of that polity.

The survey work performed by the Government surveyors consisted in demarcating tax and town allotments. Lease and road surveys were also carried out. The number of European leases in Tonga is 1,522 of a total area of 6,635 acres. The majority of the leases, apart from residences in the towns, consist of store sites and the small trading stations of the large commercial houses.

XI.—LABOUR.

The number of labourers employed in Tonga is negligible. There are a few Solomon Islanders, Fijians and Indians working in the stores and on plantations. The wage of these labourers averages £5 per month with house and food. They are brought from Fiji

and their passages are paid by their employers. Few Tongans engage in labour. They receive, on an average, 6s. per diem with food. They are employed intermittently on plantations and on the wharf. Reference has been made above to the wages of domestic servants.

XII.—METEOROLOGICAL.

The climate of the Tongan Group from May to November is good for the tropics. The thermometer rarely registers higher than 80 degrees and the humidity, during these months, is, as a rule, relatively low. During the wet season, from December to April, the temperature rarely rises above 90 degrees, but the humidity, especially when the wind is northerly, is high. This season is trying for Europeans.

The following figures set out the meteorological summary for the year. As regards humidity, the maxima and minima shown are as observed at 9 a.m. The records are taken at Nukualofa. The highest humidity recorded was 100 per cent. in March, November, and December. The highest air temperature was 86·8 degrees on the 25th February and the lowest 53·8 degrees on the 23rd August. The temperatures shown are the true extremes as the instruments are self recording.

Rain fell on 175 days throughout the year—the greatest fall in any twenty-four hour period was on the 11th December when 6·27 inches fell.

Cyclonic storms passed to the south-west of Tonga in January and December. The fringe only of the disturbance was encountered and no damage was done.

Summary.

Nukualofa Station. Lat. 21.7.58.6 S.
Monthly means as follows :— Long. 175.11.59.1 W.

Month.	*Bar.*	*Dry Bulb.*	*Wet Bulb.*	*Rel. Hum.*	*Max.*	*Min.*	*R'fall.*	*Wind.*
January ...	29·769	79·2	73·5	75·3	83·0	71·9	6·04	SE
February ...	29·862	81·5	77·0	81·3	84·3	75·2	6·46	E
March ...	29·876	81·0	76·3	79·9	84·6	74·4	6·93	E
April ...	29·901	78·9	73·6	77·3	83·0	69·2	4·95	SE
May	29·971	76·6	72·0	79·3	81·0	68·6	5·92	SE
June	30·061	74·0	68·9	76·5	78·0	66·4	1·16	E
July	29·991	71·9	67·8	80·1	76·9	63·6	1·97	SE
August ...	30·052	70·2	65·6	77·9	74·9	62·2	4·52	SE
September ...	30·005	72·1	66·2	72·8	75·8	62·1	6·69	S
October ...	30·006	75·0	70·5	79·4	77·8	65·3	8·94	SE
November ...	29·874	78·6	73·5	77·9	81·5	69·3	5·59	E
December ...	29·820	78·9	73·9	78·6	81·1	69·9	11·73	ESE
Means ...	29·932	76·5	71·6	78·0	80·1	68·2	70·9	SE
					74·2			

XIII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

During the year a Revised and Consolidated Edition of the Law of Tonga was published. The last Code of Laws was issued in 1903. A Consolidated Edition of Regulations was also published during the year. Both publications were compiled by His Honour W. K. Horne, then Chief Justice of Tonga.

J. S. NEILL,

His Britannic Majesty's Agent and Consul, Tonga.

BRITISH AGENCY AND CONSULATE, TONGA.

10*th April*, 1930.

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TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1930.

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History and Geography.

The Kingdom of Tonga consists of three main groups of islands called respectively Tongatabu, Haapai, and Vavau, together with the outlying islands of Niuafoou, Niuatobutabu, and Tafahi. The main groups are situated between the 18th and 22nd degrees of South latitude and the 173rd and 176th degrees of West longitude and extend over an area of approximately 250 square miles.

The island of Niuatobutabu was discovered by the Dutch navigators Schouten and Lemaire in 1616. They did not visit the main groups. In 1643 Tongatabu was discovered by Tasman, and from that year until 1767, when Wallis anchored at Niuatobutabu, there was no contact with the outside world. Captain Cook visited Tongatabu and the Naabai group in 1773 and again in 1777, and named the islands the Friendly Islands. Niuafoou was discovered by Captain Edwards in H.M.S. *Pandora* in the year 1791.

The early history of Tonga is enshrouded in myth, and any attempt to reconstruct the past is based on the list of the Tui Tonga, the ancient kings. This list has been compiled by ethnologists and dates back to the 10th century. The extent of the dominions of these ancient kings is not clearly known, but there is evidence that they possessed overlordship over a vast area of Polynesia, whence they received tribute. The kingship was hereditary and the power of the Tui Tonga was absolute. About the 15th century, after the murder of a Tui Tonga, his successor, while retaining his sacred powers, divested himself of much of his executive authority which he transferred to his brother whom he henceforth called the Tui Haatakalaua. At this time it may be said that there were two kings in Tonga, the spiritual and the temporal. About the middle of the 17th century the temporal king transferred his executive power to a brother, retaining for himself the presentation of offerings from his people. The new chief was called the Tui Kanokupolu, and succession to the title, though not hereditary, was kept within the family. From the date of the creation of the new title the powers of the Tui Tonga and the Tui Haatakalaua gradually passed into the hands of the Tui Kanokupolu and in the middle of the 19th century, upon the death of the then Tui Tonga, the insignia of the ancient title of the Tui Tonga were conferred upon the Tui Kanokupolu, King George I, the founder of the reigning dynasty. While the evolution of a sacred line of chiefs is not without historic parallel, the double delegation of powers renders difficult the true understanding of the ancient Tongan polity.

Evidence remains in modern Tonga of the power of the ancient kings in the form of the stone monuments which still exist. Chief of these is the Haamonga—a trilithon consisting of two large coral upright stones about 16 feet high, with a connecting stone, 19 feet long, laid horizontally across and mortised into the tops of the upright pieces, the visible parts of which are estimated to weigh between 20 and 40 tons. It was probably erected about the 13th century. Tradition is not consistent as to the reason which impelled the then Tui Tonga to erect this monument, but it is evidentiary of an absolute power. Its state of preservation is excellent. Other evidence of the powers of the ancient kings is to be found in the langis, the royal burial grounds which still exist in Tonga. They consist of quadrilateral mounds, faced by huge blocks of stone, rising sometimes in terraces to a height of 20 feet. The stones are coral, of immense weight, and can only have been placed in position by the concerted labour of a large body of men skilled in the use of rollers and levers. The stones out of which the monuments were constructed were probably quarried from the coral reefs, though there is a strong traditionary evidence that many of them came from distant Polynesian islands.

From the close of the 18th century the history of Tonga can be obtained from the chronicles of Europeans who visited the islands or from European missionary sources. During the first half of the 19th century the islands were the scene of civil wars. These were finally checked during the reign of King George I who had by conquest gathered all power into his own hands. He was finally proclaimed King in 1845. King George I came strongly under missionary influence and, though his rule was absolute, he determined to grant a Constitution, based on the English model, to the Tongans. This Constitution, granted over fifty years ago, has been from time to time amended, yet in essentials the present Constitution differs little from the original. King George died in 1893, at the age of ninety-six, after a memorable reign of nearly fifty years. He was the creator of modern Tonga. He was succeeded by his great-grandson, King George II. The present monarch, Queen Salote Tubou, succeeded to the throne on the death of her father King George Tubou II in 1918.

A Protectorate was proclaimed over Tonga in 1900 and a British Agent appointed.

The language of the groups is Tongan, though the laws and Government Gazettes are published in both English and Tongan.

British and Australian coin was made the currency of Tonga by a Statute passed by the Tongan Parliament in 1906. Tongan Government notes were issued in 1919; at the present time notes to the value of £21,268 are in circulation. The issue is secured by a coin and investment reserve

British weights and measures are in use.

I.—GENERAL.

Under the Constitution of Tonga the Government is divided into three bodies, the Queen, Privy Council, and Cabinet; the Legislative Assembly; and the Judiciary. The chief executive body is the Queen-in-Council and executive decisions of lesser import are taken in Cabinet over which the Premier presides. The law-making power is vested in the Assembly which consists of the members of the Privy Council, seven nobles elected by their peers, and seven representatives elected by the people. Elections are held triennially. A limited law-making power is vested in the Privy Council; any legislation passed by the Executive is subject to review at the next meeting of the Legislature. At present the technical and financial departments are administered by European members of the Tongan civil service, and Tongan ministers control the other departments. The northern group of islands, Haapai and Vavau, together with the outlying islands, are administered by Tongan Governors who are members of, and responsible to, the executive. No constitutional changes took place during the year nor did any events of a general political nature occur.

An event of scientific interest was the total eclipse of the sun on the 22nd October. During the eclipse the shadow began a little to the north of New Guinea and passed eastward in a downward curve to the southern extremity of South America. In its course it passed over the Tongan Group. The total eclipse was visible from the island of Niuafoou and from practically no other piece of land except at sunset. Niaufoou is a small island about three hundred miles distant from Tongatabu. It has a volcanic history, and in 1929 the craters were in active eruption. Scientific parties from New Zealand and the United States of America visited the island to observe the eclipse. The New Zealand party was under the leadership of Dr. Adams, Director of the Dominion Observatory, Wellington, and the United States party was under Commander C. H. J. Keppler, United States Navy. During the period of totality, which lasted for slightly over 1½ minutes, excellent weather conditions prevailed. The reports of the scientific parties are not yet available, but there is every reason to believe that the expeditions were successful in carrying out their entire programmes. Wireless watches were kept in Tonga and stations of other island administrations to determine the effect of the eclipse on the propagation of wireless waves. The Radio Research Committee of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, New Zealand, have been acquainted with the results of the experiments. A report has not yet been issued.

Falcon Island, which lies about forty miles to the north of Tongatabu, has erupted throughout the year. This island first appeared in the year 1885. Its area has continually changed and it disappeared altogether sixteen years ago. It reappeared in 1927 and after a few days of eruption it was approximately a mile in length and breadth and 300 feet in height. At the present time its area is slightly greater.

The Protectorate was visited during the year by His Majesty's ships *Dunedin* and *Laburnum*.

II.—FINANCE.

The Tongan financial year ends on the 30th June. The revenue and expenditure totals for each of the last five years are as follows :—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1925-26	91,696	68,759
1926-27	72,562	83,513
1927-28	86,626	83,208
1928-29	96,887	76,709
1929-30	89,505	85,442

There is no public debt, and at the close of the last financial year the surplus funds of the country amounted to £148,332. These funds are invested in United Kingdom War Bonds, New Zealand, Australian, Straits Settlements, and Nigeria Stock, and in fixed deposits with the Bank of New Zealand in Sydney and Auckland.

A Government Savings Bank was established in 1926. The following statistics show the operations of the bank since its institution :—

Year.	*Deposits.*	*Withdrawals.*
	£	£
1926	3,495	558
1927	7,929	3,900
1928	12,341	9,713
1929	11,359	8,528
1930	23,689	14,228

There is no other bank in Tonga.

The principal sources of revenue are the native tax, customs, trading licences, court fees, rents of Government lands, and interest on investments.

All male Tongans, when they attain the age of sixteen years, pay a poll tax of 36s. per annum. Exemption from this tax may be granted on grounds of old age or sickness.

The general tariff on imported goods is 12½ per cent. *ad valorem;* there are no preferential duties. There is an export tax on copra at the rate of £1 per ton.

There were no changes of importance during the year in the method of raising revenue or in the incidence of taxation.

III.—PRODUCTION.

Copra is the sole agricultural product exported from the Tongan group. Prior to the war there was a considerable trade with New Zealand in bananas and citrus fruits but the absence of direct communication with the Dominion, which ceased during the war, killed the trade. During the year efforts have been made to resuscitate the banana trade and it is hoped that shipments may commence at the end of this year. The soil throughout the group is very fertile and in Tongatabu European vegetables of most summer varieties are easily grown except during the hot months of December to April. Native root crops, of excellent quality, are produced for domestic use.

The following table shows the quantity and value of copra exports for the five years ending the 31st December last :—

Year.	*Tons.*	*Value.* £
1926	13,992	255,156
1927	11,252	225,344
1928	15,671	282,083
1929	16,861	252,911
1930	14,134	169,610

The quantity exported during the year shows a decrease on the average export of the past five years. There was a fall in production in Tongatabu and the Haapai Group due largely to prolonged drought. In addition, the quantity on hand at the end of the year awaiting shipment was larger than usual. The slump in the copra market has affected severely the value of the crop. Production is almost entirely carried on by the Tongans. The percentage of copra exported by European planters is approximately 2½ per cent. of the total export. European planters are few in number. The Tongan Government does not encourage European settlement and, apart from this fact, the difficulty of obtaining labour forms an effective bar to development of the land by Europeans.

Under the Land Law of the country, to which reference is made below, every Tongan land holder, as an incidence of tenure, is under obligation to plant one-half of his holding in coconuts. Provision is further made that the trees shall be properly spaced, thirty feet apart, and planted in rows.

Legislation exists having for its object the improvement in the quality of copra exported, and it is an offence for a trader to have in his possession bad or damaged copra.

There is no forestry or fishing production.

Whales are frequently observed in the group during the season. A European whaler, who lives in the islands, harpoons them from time and time and sells the flesh as foodstuff. There is no export of the oil.

There are no minerals.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The following table shows the value of the import and export trade during the last five years :—

Year.	*Imports.* £	*Exports.* £
1926	227,882	263,198
1927	157,783	235,391
1928	211,907	287,668
1929	198,078	259,090
1930	148,306	169,610

The export trade is confined to copra. It is exported on optional bills of lading and is mostly sold on the Continent.

Details of the principal imports are as follows :—

General Description.	*Value.*
	£
Bags, gunny	6,721
Beer	1,661
Benzine	2,745
Biscuits	2,995
Butter	1,904
Cigars and cigarettes	920
Cordage and rope	1,168
Drapery	29,453
Flour	11,000
Galvanized manufactures	2,650
Hardware	6,129
Meats, tinned	21,168
Motor cars and accessories	6,095
Soap	2,145
Spirits	2,017
Sugar	4,251
Timber	4,791
Tobacco	1,848

The imports, apart from benzine, kerosene, motor cars and accessories, and a small quantity of drapery, are of Empire origin. The following figures show the percentage of imports from foreign countries :—

Year.	*Per Cent.*
1926	9
1927	11
1928	12
1929	14
1930	12

Of the rest of the imports during 1930, the United Kingdom supplied 20 per cent., New Zealand 35 per cent., Australia 25 per cent., and other British territories 8 per cent.

There was little change in the general incidence of the import trade during the year. The volume of trade from the United Kingdom has increased by approximately 2 per cent. in each of the last five years. It is, however, greater than statistics indicate, as goods of United Kingdom origin, which are imported from New Zealand, Australia, or Fiji, are classified in the Customs Returns of the Tongan Government as imports from the latter countries. The principal imports from the United Kingdom consist of drapery and hardware. There is a ready market for Manchester prints, suitable for native clothing, and for other cotton wearing apparel reasonably costed. The market for galvanized roofing is increasing owing to the tendency of the Tongans to substitute wooden

houses for thatched cottages. The market for the British light motor car is limited. Benzine is retailed at 2s. 6d. per gallon, and the advantages of the low horse-powered car in the matter of running expenses are obvious. At the end of the year, 121 private cars and 81 commercial vehicles were registered in Tonga. Of these only 11 cars and one lorry were British. Tinned meats are of New Zealand origin, flour Australian, and gunny bags, used for sacking copra, Indian. Timber is imported from the Pacific Coast.

The leading commercial houses, viz., Messrs. Burns Philp (South Sea) Company, Limited, and Messrs. Morris Hedstrom Limited, import from the United Kingdom through their London offices. During the latter half of the year the adverse rate of exchange, together with the low price prevailing for copra, severely affected importations.

Tonga is overstocked with small stores. Every village has its trading station, and in many cases two or three. The overhead charges of trading are high with a consequent reaction on the cost of commodities. There is a keen demand among traders for copra. The cost of the upkeep of the numerous sub-stations of the traders and the high handling charges reflect themselves on the price paid.

Wages and Cost of Living.

It is difficult to draw a comparison between the cost of living in the United Kingdom and Tonga on account of the general difference in conditions. The *quantum* of the tariff, imposed for revenue purposes, has been referred to above. There is, on the other hand, no income tax. Supplies of fresh meat, milk, eggs, poultry, and ice are available at Nukualofa, the seat of Government. In outlying islands fresh meat and ice are not procurable. Excellent vegetables are obtainable in Nukualofa, except during the months of December to April, at reasonable rates. Domestic servants are expensive. Tongan men do not engage in domestic service and Tongan girls receive a wage of about £3 *per mensem*, and food. Indian cooks from Fiji when procurable, receive a wage of £6 to £7 *per mensem*, with food, and in addition their fares from Fiji to Tonga are paid by their employer. The following table shows the current prices of certain necessary commodities :—

Sugar	5d. per lb.
Tea	4s. per lb.
Butter	2s. per lb.
Flour	3d. per lb.
Onions	4d. per lb.
Eggs	2s. 6d. per dozen
Bacon	2s. per lb.
Bread	7d. per 2 lb. loaf.
Meat	1s. per lb.
Poultry	3s. a fowl
Kerosene	18s. 6d. per 8 gallon case

The household budget will, on the whole, be 20 per cent. to 25 per cent. higher in Tonga than in the United Kingdom.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

There is monthly communication with Auckland by a vessel of the Union Steamship Company. This vessel, after calling at Fiji *en route*, visits three ports in Tonga and returns to Auckland via Samoa and Fiji. A call is made at Niuafoou on the voyage from Samoa to Fiji for mail purposes. The mail is carried to and from the ship by swimmers as anchorage at the island is impossible. Tonga is 1,100 miles distant from Auckland yet the journey, on account of the route followed, occupies a fortnight. Lack of direct communication with the Dominion, which existed before the War, is severely felt. In addition to the monthly mail steamer, fifteen vessels visited the Protectorate during the year for copra cargoes. Of these, six were British, six American, one Swedish, and two Panamanian. The total tonnage of overseas vessels entered and cleared amounted to 163,023. Of this total 120,834 was British and 31,685 American.

Inter-insular communication is maintained by two Government despatch boats. They are small auxiliary ships fitted with semi-diesel engines.

The Tongan Government maintain a wireless station at Nukualofa and sub-stations at Vavau, Haapai, Niuafoou, and Niuatobutabu. The sub-stations communicate only with the main station. Nukualofa radio communicates with Samoa and Fiji and thence to all parts of the world. The sub-stations at Haapai and the two Niuas were opened during the year. The Vavau plant was changed from the spark system to continuous wave. The cost of the new installations, complete and in operation, was Vavau £94, Haapai £98, Niuafoou £118, and Niuatobutabu £112. The three latter sub-stations are equipped with locally built continuous wave valve transmitters rated at 20 watts input. The power supplied for the valves is furnished by a battery of Leclanche type primary cells. The sub-stations are operated by Tongans who received training locally. The new system, considering the limited experience the operators have had, has worked satisfactorily.

Experiments in radio telephony were conducted from all stations and proved successful with the exception of Niuafoou whose transmission to Nukualofa suffers considerable screening by the intervening high land of Niuafoou.

The following table shows the traffic handled during the year and the revenue received :—

Station.	*Messages.*	*Received.*	*Despatched.*	*Revenue* £
Nukualofa	Government	—	158	56
	Ordinary	1,256	1,270	346
Vavau	Government	82	72	27
	Ordinary	868	1,121	242
Haapai	Government	42	47	20
(Seven months)	Ordinary	285	397	72
Niuafoou	Government	21	25	17
(Three months)	Ordinary	65	120	27
Niuatobutabu	Government	6	7	4
(2½ months)	Ordinary	33	62	12

Summary of Traffic Handled.

Messages.	*Words.*	*Revenue.*
6,195	57,538	£823

(Including British Government and other free telegrams not shown above.)

The terminal charge of the Nukualofa radio for all Tongan stations is 6d. per word from abroad. The inter-insular charge is 3d.

There is a telephone system in Nukualofa which is administered by the Superintendent of Telegraphs. There are 92 subscribers.

The following statement shows the total revenue and expenditure on wireless and telephone services during the year :—

		£
Revenue.	Wireless Fees	823
	Telephone „	443
		1,266
Expenditure.	Personal emoluments	1,523
	Other charges	469
	Extraordinary expenditure	400
		2,392

The wireless operators in the sub-stations perform also the duties of district clerks and are paid from the vote of the department to which they are attached.

There are approximately 40 miles of metalled road in Tongatabu and ten miles in Vavau suitable for motor traffic. The by-roads are graded earth roads; they are unsuitable for heavy traffic during rains.

There are no railways in the islands.

Postal communication with the outside world is maintained by the monthly vessel of the Union Steamship Company. Foreign mails are also despatched by copra vessels. Inter-insular mails are carried by the Government despatch vessels. The Collectors

of Customs act as Postmasters at the three ports. There are sub-post offices in some of the main villages of Tongatabu. British postal orders are issued at the chief post offices. Money orders, for transmission through Australia, are also issued. During the year the total value of stamps sold amounted to £1,027. Money orders to a value of £9,598 were issued and orders to a value of £425 paid. Postal orders issued and paid amounted in value to £1,014 and £61 respectively.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

There are two jurisdictions in Tonga, the British and the Tongan.

The British Agent holds a commission as a Deputy Commissioner of His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner's Court for the Western Pacific. He is a Judicial Commissioner in Divorce. Under the provisions of the Treaty of 1900, jurisdiction in civil matters is exercised by the British Court over British subjects and foreigners. The British Court has jurisdiction in probate and divorce matters where British subjects and foreigners are parties. In criminal cases British subjects and foreigners charged with an offence against the laws of Tonga, not including crimes punishable by death or by imprisonment exceeding two years, are amenable to the jurisdiction of the Courts of Tonga. The reserved cases are justiciable in the British Court.

The jurisdiction of the British Court is exercised in conformity with the provisions of the Pacific Order in Council of 1893. The principles of British law, so far as circumstances admit, are applied. The judicial work of the British Agent is light. During the year one criminal and six civil cases were heard and determined, two grants of probate issued, and two divorce petitions were heard.

The Courts of the Tongan Government have full jurisdiction over Tongans and the limited jurisdiction stated above over British subjects and foreigners. The Tongan judicial system is based on the British model, and trial by jury, in cases where the accused are Tongans, is provided for in the Constitution.

The Justice Department of the Government of Tonga consists of the Chief Justice, the Land Judge, a European Magistrate, and three Tongan Magistrates. The Supreme Court exercises jurisdiction in all civil cases in which the amount claimed exceeds £50 and in all criminal cases where the maximum penalty exceeds a fine of £50 or two years' imprisonment; other cases are heard in the Magistrates' Court. Where the person charged is a European the case is heard and determined by the European Magistrate if it comes within magisterial jurisdiction; other cases are tried by the Chief Justice sitting with two European assessors.

The Land Court Judge, sitting with a Tongan assessor, hears and determines land claims.

Serious crime among the Tongan people is of infrequent occurrence.

The following table shows the number of indictments which have been tried by the Chief Justice during the last five years :—

Year.	*Number of Indictments.*	*Convictions.*
1926	32	27
1927	35	30
1928	31	26
1929	34	30
1930	34	25

The following table shows the number of criminal cases heard and determined in the Magistrates' Courts during the last five years :—

Year.	*No. of Cases.*	*Convictions.*	*Acquittals.*
1926 ...	5,843	4,441	1,402
1927 ...	5,805	4,520	1,285
1928 ...	4,645	3,507	1,138
1929 ...	4,646	3,270	1,376
1930 ...	4,393	2,887	1,411

There were 95 adjourned cases at the end of 1930.

The majority of the criminal cases heard in the Magistrates' Courts were for minor municipal and traffic offences.

There is a considerable amount of civil litigation among the Tongans. During the year four civil cases came before the Supreme Court and 2,435 actions were heard in the Magistrates' Courts.

There is an appeal from a Magistrate's decision to the Chief Justice in all civil cases and in every criminal case except when the defendant pleads guilty.

During the year the Chief Justice heard eighteen appeals, fourteen criminal and four civil. In the criminal appeals the sentences imposed in the Magistrates' Courts were affirmed in six cases, varied in one, and reversed in seven. In the civil actions the Magistrates' decisions were upheld in three cases and one case was ordered to be re-tried.

The Supreme Court heard thirty-six cases in divorce. Decrees absolute were granted in all cases except one.

The Supreme Court in its probate jurisdiction granted Letters of Administratioin in seventy-eight cases. The following table shows the number of Grants of Probate or Letters of Administration which issued out of the Court during the last five years :—

Year.	*Number.*
1926	68
1927	72
1928	82
1929	112
1930	78

There are twenty-six Tongan lawyers practising in the Courts. Licences to practise are issued by the Chief Justice. There is no educational qualification imposed, but the Chief Justice has a discretionary power to refuse to issue a licence to undesirable persons.

Police.

The Police Department is in charge of a Tongan Minister who is also the Public Prosecutor. The Department has a strength of one European Inspector, three Tongan Inspectors, and forty-four non-commissioned officers and men. The Tongan police, when called upon to do so, assist His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner's Court in making arrests and enforcing judgments.

The total expenditure of the Force for all services was £5,336. The cost of the Police per head of population was 3s. 7d.

The number of persons prosecuted by the Police for offences of all kinds during the last five years is as follows :—

Year.	*Number.*
1926	3,795
1927	3,897
1928	3,679
1929	3,605
1930	3,487

The great majority of these prosecutions were for offences of a trivial nature.

All traffic is controlled by the Force, which carries out the registration of motor vehicles and the examination of drivers.

In addition to ordinary police duties the Force is responsible for the inspection of villages and road frontages and the taking of the annual census.

Prisons.

The Minister of Police is in charge of the prisons. There is a main gaol at Nukualofa with sub-gaols at Haapai, Vavau, and the two Niuas. The staff of the Department consists of two Chief Gaolers and eight warders. Prisoners are employed on public works and in making copra and planting foodstuffs on Government plantations.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The activities of the Department consist mainly in road development and maintenance work and in the maintenance and repair of public buildings. No works of special interest were undertaken during the year.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The Medical Department of the Government of Tonga consists of four medical officers, a dentist, a European nurse, and a Tongan staff. Five Tongan students are in residence at the Central Medical School, Suva.

The Tongans receive free medical attention. Other patients are charged fees on a scale laid down by the Executive. Fees are paid direct into revenue. The dentist receives a retaining fee from the Government. Tongans receive free treatment in cases of extractions and temporary stoppings. They are also treated freely for pyorrhoea, the incidence of which is heavy.

Provision was made for an expenditure of £10,814 on medical and health services. This sum is equivalent to 12.6 per cent. of the estimated revenue for the year. There are three hospitals in Tonga. The main hospital at Nukualofa is well equipped. It consists of European and Tongan wards, in separate buildings, and a dispensary. The other hospitals are in Haapai and Vavau. They are suitable for local requirements.

The following table shows the nature of the diseases treated during the year and the number of cases :—

Disease.	*Nukualofa.*	*Haapai.*	*Vavau.*	*Total.*
Tetanus	1	1	1	3
Leprosy	2	2	1	5
Malaria	1	—	1	2
Dengue Fever ...	179	350	23	552
Conjunctivitis	191	228	75	494
Trachoma	30	15	—	45
Gonorrhoea	19	7	7	33
Yaws	184	176	244	604
Typhoid Fever ...	22	44	11	77
Dysentery	22	31	2	55
Tuberculosis	134	24	99	257
Pneumonia	35	7	30	72
Influenzal pneumonia	14	3	2	19
Influenza	1,310	470	1,085	2,865
Measles	3	2	3	8
German Measles ...	1	—	4	5
Varicella	24	—	1	25

Dispensary attendances amounted to 19,292 in Nukualofa, 7,031 in Haapai and 12,554 in Vavau. During the year 70 major and 2,482 minor operations were performed. General anaesthetics were administered in 49 cases, local and regional in 1,741, and spinal in 4 cases.

The total number of admissions to the three hospitals was 185.

As regards the infectious diseases treated during the year there was a decrease in the incidence of influenza and influenzal pneumonia. In 1929, 3,822 and 58 cases respectively were reported.

There was a total mortality of 9 in the 72 reported cases of pneumonia. In 1928 and 1929 there were 230 and 142 cases with a total mortality of 37 and 22 respectively.

The reported cases of typhoid were 77 as against 80 in 1929 and 199 in 1928. More than half of the reported cases occurred in the Haapai group where the incidence of typhoid has always been heavy. Repair work on the water conservation tanks in the group was completed during the year. When a case of typhoid is discovered inoculations of contacts is so far as possible carried out. During the year, 1,874 such inoculations were done.

The incidence of dysentery was light. The cases reported were 55 as against 120 in 1929. More than half the reported cases occurred in Haapai. There were three deaths from dysentery.

The reported tuberculosis cases increased from 198 in 1929 to 257. An examination of a considerable number of cases in the Tongatabu group showed that they were not tubercular but lesions produced by the passage of the larvae of intestinal parasites through the lungs. These cases have usually an associated anaemia and general debility and closely simulate incipient tuberculosis. The lesions in the lungs form a suitable nidus for the growth of the tubercle bacillus and a number of such cases ultimately become infected.

The number of reported cases of yaws, viz., 604, shows a falling off as compared with 1928 (1,130) and 1929 (643). In all 2,082 injections of Novarsenobillon were given. Several cases of early recurrence or re-infection came under notice and it was found in each case that the injections had been given before immunity to the disease could have been acquired. It is now the practice of the Medical Department to delay treatment with N.A.B. till three months have elapsed so that immunity can be acquired. It has been found that these recurrent cases become resistant to N.A.B. if treated too early.

Dengue was introduced from Fiji in the second quarter of the year. It spread throughout the group. There were no deaths.

Tonga is free from malaria. One of the reported cases was imported and the other case is doubtful.

As regards sanitation the work of erecting cement latrines is completed. Progress, though slow, is being made in the construction of cement tanks for water conservation and in the repair of existing village tanks. In the past many large tanks were built in Tonga with no catchment area except their own roofs. The village churches afforded excellent catchment but there was a repugnance among the Tongans to use the church roof for this purpose. This antipathy has now disappeared. There are no rivers or streams in Tonga and it is essential, in the interest of public health, that a complete system of rain water conservation tanks be installed.

Vital Statistics.

The following figures show the vital statistics for the five years ending the 31st December last :—

Year.	*Number of Births.*	*Birth-rate.*
1926	910	35.80
1927	976	37.65
1928	960	36.09
1929	1,010	37.25
1930	1,109	39.91

As regards the sexes of the children born, the following table shows the proportion for the last five years :—

Year.	*Males.*	*Females.*
1926	1,002.1	1,000
1927	1,029.1	1,000
1928	1,111.8	1,000
1929	1,048.8	1,000
1930	1,084.5	1,000

The illegitimate births amounted to 186. The following table shows the proportion of illegitimate births to every 100 births during the last five years :—

Year.	*Percentage.*
1926	18.79
1927	15.47
1928	18.54
1929	19.52
1930	16.84

The following table shows the number of deaths and the death-rate for the last five years :—

Year.	*Number of Deaths.*	*Death-rate.*
1926	377	14.84
1927	297	11.07
1928	476	17.80
1929	424	15.65
1930	338	12.03

The infant mortality rate for the year was 58.80 per mille of births and 16.98 per cent. of the total deaths. Comparative figures of this rate are as follows :—

Year.	*In per cent. of deaths.*	*In per mille of births.*
1926	24.50	102.19
1927	11.10	37.90
1928	19.90	64.58
1929	16.98	71.42
1930	19.20	58.80

The following table sets out the total number of marriages performed and the marriage rate for the last five years :—

Year.	*Total Number.*	*Rate per mille of population.*
1926	237	9.33
1927	252	9.64
1928	238	8.94
1929	286	10.55
1930	285	10.30

The estimated Tongan population at the end of the year was 28,431, an increase of 771 during the year. The European population is estimated at 480, half-castes 350, other Pacific Islanders 300, Indians 35, Japanese 15.

IX.—EDUCATION.

The early history of education in Tonga is closely associated with the activities of the Christian Missions. The Government, however, decided on the establishment of state schools at an early stage in the development of the country; there are references to such schools in speeches by King George I delivered fifty years ago. In 1882 the first King founded Tonga College. He made a personal gift of the valuable site on which the College was built and also endowed it with a large area of planting land. Since its foundation over 4,000 students have been in residence.

Some years before Tonga College was founded the King had founded Tubou College. The Wesleyan Mission since 1826 had carried out educational work but the foundation of the College in 1866 marked a definite advance. Girls were admitted to Tubou College in 1870 and it is on record that girls have been captains of the whole school.

In 1888 the Roman Catholic Mission founded Api Foou College for the further training of selected boys from parochial schools.

In the various Tongan Codes of Law which have been published during the last fifty years statutes dealing with education have been included. In 1927 a comprehensive Act was passed. Education is compulsory for all Tongans between the ages of six and

fourteen years. The schools, under the Education Act, are divided into three types, primary, middle, and high. The primary schools provide an elementary education in the vernacular. There are 73 Government and 44 denominational primary schools. The average daily attendance throughout the year was 4,999. The total Tongan population is approximately 28,431. Of this total 7,500 are taxpayers, i.e., males over the age of sixteen years. The number of males and females in the country is approximately the same. If, therefore, allowance is made for the children who have not reached school age and those between the ages of 14 and 16 years, it will be seen that practically all Tongans between the ages of six and fourteen attend the primary schools. These schools provide an education in accordance with a Government syllabus and are subject to inspection. Elementary instruction is given in the three Rs, history of Tonga, geography, hygiene, singing, needlework, and native arts. The buildings of the Government primary schools were, until last year, provided and maintained by the taxpayers of the village. By an amending law of 1930 they are charged on general revenue. Education is free. In all primary schools there is co-education.

It has not yet been possible to establish the middle schools provided for in the Act. At these an elementary education on an English basis will be given. In the primary schools the medium of instruction is Tongan, but in several of these elementary instruction in English is now given.

The Colleges to which reference has been made above provide a general secondary education of a simple nature. They are residential.

The staff at the Government College consists of three European masters, six Tongan masters, and a Bandmaster. There are 233 boys in residence. The ordinary academic subjects are taught; the medium of instruction is English. The boys grow their own food, mostly vegetables and root crops, on the College plantation. The College brass band during term gives a weekly recital in the War Memorial Band Rotunda in Nukualofa and plays on official occasions. The band was first formed in the College in 1886 under the conductorship of the grandson of the Royal founder of the College.

The Director of Education, who is also principal of the College, conducts an annual course of instruction at the College for head teachers from the primary schools during the long vacation. Instruction is practical and theoretical and the results have proved useful.

Tubou College is a Free Wesleyan Church Mission school. It is now divided into two parts, the boys' school at Nafualu and the girls' at Nukualofa. Both are residential. At the end of the year there were 169 boys and 80 girls in residence. The staff at the boys' school consists of two Europeans and three Tongans; at the

girls' there is one European and one Tongan teacher. The objective of the school at Nafualu is the training of boys in academic subjects to fit them for general usefulness in the country and especially in the Church as Primary School teachers in Mission schools. In examinations conducted by the Government the record of the school is particularly good. It possesses a Museum housed in a historic Tongan church which was removed from Nukualofa and re-erected in the school grounds. The Museum building is the finest example of Tongan architecture now extant. The collection consists of over 200 exhibits.

At the girls' school a secondary education of a simple kind is given. It is of interest to record the fact that in 1930 three girls from the school entered for the Public Service Examination and all passed. They are the first girls to sit for a public examination in Tonga.

At Api Foou College, there are 80 students in residence. The staff consists of one European and one Tongan.

Games play an important part in the life of the Colleges. The Tongan is a keen rugby footballer and cricketer and a particularly good tennis player. The sports meeting between Tonga College and Tubou College is one of the big events of Tongan social life.

Secondary education for girls, apart from Mission effort, is undeveloped.

No provision is made by the Government for the education of European children. The Missions have schools which the children attend. Instruction of an elementary type only is given.

A scholarship scheme was inaugurated in 1927 under which Tongan students from the secondary schools proceed abroad for higher education. At present three scholars are in residence at Newington College, Australia, and two scholars have entered the Central Medical School, Fiji. The value of the scholarships is £150 per annum at Newington College and £100 per annum at the Medical School.

Expenditure on educational services amounted to £7,278. This sum is equivalent to 8.60 per cent. of the total expenditure of the year.

The Government of Tonga contributes to the funds of the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

The Tongan land system is, in many respects, unique. In historic times the Tongan lived on his farm rather than in village communities, and the communal land ownership which is met with in parts of the Pacific is unknown in Tonga. In the 18th century the troubled condition of the land drove the peasant proprietors to take refuge together in fortresses and out of these fortresses the

modern village has grown. The remains of many old trenches exist to-day. Although the necessity for living together for purposes of mutual protection disappeared in the middle of last century, the people did not revert to their old mode of life and the town is now an accepted part of Tongan polity.

The historic system of land tenure was feudal. The great chiefs held of the King and they sub-divided their lands among their followers. Through the chiefs the King received tribute and they in turn exacted feudal dues from the people. In the first Constitution of Tonga, granted by the King over fifty years ago, it was expressly enacted that the Kingdom was the King's. The King, however, confirmed in their ancestral holdings the high chiefs and out of the royal and chiefs' estates holdings were granted to the people. In course of time a grant which was made in return for service in cash or kind became the right of the people and a law was passed which entitled every Tongan, when he became a taxpayer, to two holdings, a house site in the village and tax lands in the bush.

It is not possible, within the limits of this report, to develop further the evolution of the Tongan land system; it is felt, however, that a brief reference to the system of the past is necessary before the present system of tenure is shortly described.

Every Tongan male, when he attains the age of sixteen and thereby becomes a taxpayer, is entitled to a tax allotment of $8\frac{1}{4}$ acres in the bush and a town site not exceeding 132 feet square. He obtains the grant upon application to the Minister of Lands. The Minister makes the allotment from the estate of the chief on which the applicant resides. If land is not available on such estate the allotment is made from the estate of another chief who is willing to provide it. If no allotment is made under this latter provision Crown land is utilized. If the applicant is already resident on Crown land, the allotment is made therefrom in the first place. The rental for the tax allotment is 8s. per annum It is paid to the Crown or the chief according to where the allotment is made. No rent is charged for the village site.

Provision is made in law for ejectment for non-payment of rent or for a non-compliance with the planting section of the law. It is mandatory on every holder, as an incidence of tenure, within one year of the grant to plant 200 coconut trees on his allotment, properly spaced as provided by law. Provision is made for the survey and registration of grants. Upon the death of a holder his widow is entitled to a life estate in the allotment and devolution is expressly provided for. No Tongan may hold two tax allotments, but he may obtain a lease of an extra area.

Provision was made in 1927 to enable a Tongan to receive, upon application made, in lieu of the grants referred to, an area of $12\frac{3}{8}$ acres of tax land in the bush for which he pays a rental of 4s. If he obtains such allotment, he is not eligible for a town site. It was

hoped by reducing the rental and increasing the area to induce the people to live on the land rather than in the village. It was also hoped that Tongans who lived in congested islands would transfer to other islands where the larger areas at the reduced rentals were available. So far only eleven applications have been received for the 12⅜ acre blocks.

Without the consent of the Executive no chief or allotment holder may grant a lease or make any agreement in respect of his land. The mortgaging of growing crops is illegal.

It is a curious fact that many Tongans do not take advantage of their statutory right to land. There is no compulsion to apply. At the present time allotments are held by 6,686 taxpayers and 329 widows; there are 1,235 taxpayers who have not applied for an allotment. The non-holders have increased by 438 during the year. These persons live in the towns or on their fathers' cultivated allotments to which they hope in time to succeed. In other cases there is a disinclination to leave an island which is fully settled. Ample land is available for a full development of the land system and if every taxpayer was an allotment holder approximately one half of the area of the country would still be available for distribution.

The interest of a Tongan in land, whether he is a chief or a commoner, is a life estate. His ownership is limited in point of disposition; it possesses certain attributes of an estate in fee tail which the holder for life cannot bar. The land system is of interest as being an example of a system grafted by law upon the polity of a people and becoming a leading feature of that polity.

The survey work performed by the Government surveyors consisted in demarcating tax and town allotments. Lease and road surveys were also carried out. The number of European leases in Tonga is 1,563 of a total area of 6,647 acres. The majority of the leases, apart from residences in the towns, consist of store sites and the small trading stations of the large commercial houses.

XI.—LABOUR.

The number of labourers employed in Tonga is negligible. The Tongan cultivates his own farm. A few Solomon Islanders, Fijians, and Indians work in the stores or in European plantations. The wage of these labourers averages £5 per month with house and food. They are brought from Fiji and their passages are paid by their employers. Only a few Tongans engage in labour. They receive, on an average, 6s. *per diem* with food. They are employed intermittently on plantations and on the wharf. Reference has been made above to the wages of domestic servants.

XII.—METEOROLOGICAL.

The climate of the Tongan Group from May to November is good for the tropics. The thermometer rarely registers higher than 80 degrees and the humidity during these months is, as a rule,

relatively low. During the wet season, from December to April, the temperature rarely rises above 90 degrees, but the humidity, especially when the wind is northerly, is high. This season is trying for Europeans.

The following figures set out the meteorological summary for the year. As regards humidity, the maxima and minima shown are as observed at 9 a.m. The records are taken at Nukualofa. The highest humidity recorded was 100 per cent. on the 7th August; the lowest 50 per cent. on the 1st April. The highest air temperature was 90.4 degrees on the 20th January; the lowest 51.0 degrees on the 29th July. The temperatures shown are the true extremes as the instruments are self recording.

Rain fell on 164 days throughout the year—the greatest fall in any twenty-four hour period was on the 25th January, when 5.67 inches fell. The rainfall of 40.66 inches is the lowest recorded in Tongatabu since 1926. The average since that year has been 59.50 inches. The temperature of 90.4 degrees is the highest recorded since that year. Systematic records were first kept by the Wireless Department in 1926.

A cyclonic storm passed over Nukualofa on the 24th November. The maximum wind force was 10. The storm only lasted for a short period and no appreciable damage was done. A hurricane swept Niuatoputapu on the 25th and 26th December. Considerable damage was done to buildings and crops.

The sub-wireless stations have been supplied with meteorological instruments and it is hoped shortly that weather reports from all the sub-stations will be available.

SUMMARY.

Nukualofa Station, Lat. 21.7.58.6 S. Long. 175.11.59.1 W.

Monthly means as follows:—

Month	*Bar.*	*Dry Bulb.*	*Wet Bulb.*	*Rel. Hum.*	*Max.*	*Min.*	*R'fall.*	*Wind.*
				Per cent.				
January ...	29·826	82·6	77·9	80·6	86·0	72·9	7·96	E
February ...	29·803	83·1	76·3	72·7	86·3	72·6	2·30	SE
March ...	29·869	82·1	76·7	77·6	85·4	72·8	6·36	E
April ...	29·933	78·4	72·3	73·7	82·2	68·3	1·09	SE
May	29·988	75·1	70·3	77·7	79·8	66·6	2·05	SE
June... ...	30·032	71·5	65·8	73·0	76·4	61·3	1·55	SE
July	29·994	69·9	65·1	76·8	74·5	60·8	5·03	SE
August ...	30·054	70·6	64·9	74·5	75·1	61·7	2·98	SE
September ...	29·973	71·6	64·5	69·0	75·3	58·1	3·34	S
October ...	30·057	73·9	68·2	73·8	77·7	62·9	0·11	SE
November ...	29·964	75·4	70·7	79·0	78·7	66·0	4·88	SE
December ...	29·893	77·1	71·8	76·8	80·2	69·0	2·51	ESE
					79·8	66·1		
Means ...	29·949	75·9	70·4	75·4	72·9		40·66	SE

XIII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

During the year twenty-one Acts were passed by the Tongan Legislature of which the following are important :—

The Drugs and Poisons Act.—This Act gives effect to the terms of the Geneva Convention.

The Tonga Investment Fund Act.—This Act provides for the allocation of a sum of £125,000 from the surplus funds of the Government to form a fund to be known as the Tonga Investment Fund. This sum will be invested in trustee securities and the interest from investments will be used to defray in part the annual charges of administration.

The District and Town Officers Act.—The Act abolishes the old mayoral system of town administration and provides for the creation of District Officers with town officers as assistants. The new officers perform statutory duties in connexion with public health, agriculture, and finance.

Education Amendment Act.—Under this Act the cost of the building and maintenance of primary schools is transferred from the villages to general revenue.

Criminal Offences Amendment.—This Act gives effect to the decision of the Government to be included in the International Convention for the suppression of counterfeiting currency.

The Wireless Telegraphy Act.—This Act regulates the use of wireless telegraphy and telephony and provides for the issue of licences.

The Legitimacy Act.—This Act provides for legitimization by subsequent marriage.

The Contract Act Amendment Act.—Under the Contract Act in the case of goods supplied not exceeding £3 in value no action was maintainable against a Tongan for the price thereof unless he signed an invoice at the time of purchase. For amounts over £3 a written agreement, registered before a Magistrate, was required before action was maintainable. The law rendered it difficult to carry out trading transactions with Tongan traders and under the amendment power is conferred upon the Executive to exempt approved Tongans from the provisions of the Contract Law. In addition, the £3 limit of the principal Act was raised to £5. A further section provided that any agreement for the sale of mortgage of a vessel when a Tongan is a party shall when the purchase price or the amount of the mortgage exceeds one hundred pounds in value be null and void unless the approval of the Executive is obtained prior to such sale or mortgage. Any money paid by a Tongan prior to approval may be recovered from the other party to the contract if approval is not subsequently given.

This section was introduced to prevent the reckless and improvident agreements Tongans have in the past made in connexion with the purchase of vessels and the pledging of vessels purchased.

A volume of the laws passed in 1929 and 1930 was published during the year on the model of the annual volumes published by Colonial Governments. This is the first occasion on which the Government have issued such a publication.

J. S. NEILL,
His Britannic Majesty's Agent and Consul. Tonga.

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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF TONGA FOR THE YEAR 1931

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Appendix: Meteorological Summary.

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Kingdom of Tonga consists of three main groups of islands called respectively Tongatabu, Haapai, and Vavau, together with the outlying islands of Niuafoou, Niuatobutabu, and Tafahi.

The main groups are situated between the 18th and 22nd degrees of South latitude and the 173rd and 176th degrees of West longitude, and extend over an area of approximately 250 square miles.

The islands consist of two parallel chains running north and south. The western chain is volcanic in formation and the eastern coralline. With the exception of Tofua and Falcon Islands the volcanos are dormant or extinct.

The island of Niuatobutabu was discovered by the Dutch navigators Schouten and Lemaire in 1616. They did not visit the main groups.

In 1643 Tongatabu was discovered by Tasman, and from that year until 1767, when Wallis anchored at Niuatobutabu, there was no contact with the outside world. Captain Cook visited Tongatabu and the Haapai group in 1773 and again in 1777, and named the islands the Friendly Islands. In 1789 Captain Bligh visited the Haapai group. It was in the waters of this group that the mutiny of the *Bounty* occurred.

Niuafoou was discovered by Captain Edwards in H.M.S. *Pandora* in the year 1791.

Contact with the outside world was now established.

Climate.

The climate of the Tongan group from May to November is good for the tropics. The thermometer rarely registers higher than 80 degrees and the humidity during these months is, as a rule, relatively low. During the wet season, from December to April, the temperature rarely rises above 90 degrees, but the humidity, especially when the wind is northerly, is high. This season is trying for Europeans. The meteorological summary for the year is appended to this Report.

History.

The early history of Tonga is enshrouded in myth, and any attempt to reconstruct the past is based on the list of the Tui Tonga, the ancient kings. This list has been compiled by ethnologists and dates back to the 10th century. The extent of the dominions of these ancient kings is not clearly known, but there is evidence that they possessed overlordship over a vast area of Polynesia, whence they received tribute. The kingship was hereditary and the power of the Tui Tonga was absolute. About the 15th century, after the murder of a Tui Tonga, his successor, while retaining his sacred powers, divested himself of much of his executive authority, which he transferred to his brother whom he henceforth called the Tui Haatakalaua. At this time it may be said that there were two kings in Tonga, the spiritual and the temporal. About the middle of the 17th century the temporal king transferred his executive power to a brother, retaining for himself the presentation of offerings from his people. The new chief was called the Tui Kanokupolu, and succession to the title, though not hereditary, was kept within the family. From the date of the creation of the new title the powers of the Tui Tonga and the Tui Haatakalaua gradually passed into

the hands of the Tui Kanokupolu and in the middle of the 19th century, upon the death of the then Tui Tonga, the insignia of the ancient title of the Tui Tonga were conferred upon the Tui Kanokupolu, King George I, the founder of the reigning dynasty. While the evolution of a sacred line of chiefs is not without historic parallel, the double delegation of powers renders difficult the true understanding of the ancient Tongan polity.

Evidence remains in modern Tonga of the power of the ancient kings in the form of the stone monuments which still exist. Chief of these is the Haamonga—a trilithon consisting of two large coral upright stones about 16 feet high, with a connecting stone, 19 feet long, laid horizontally across and mortised into the tops of the upright pieces, the visible parts of which are estimated to weight between 30 and 40 tons. It was probably erected about the 13th century. Tradition is not consistent as to the reason which impelled the then Tui Tonga to erect this monument, but it is evidentiary of an absolute power. Its state of preservation is excellent. Other evidence of the powers of the ancient kings is to be found in the langis, the royal burial grounds which still exist in Tonga. They consist of quadrilateral mounds, faced by huge blocks of stone, rising sometimes in terraces to a height of 20 feet. The stones are coral, of immense weight, and can only have been placed in position by the concerted labour of a large body of men skilled in the use of rollers and levers. The stones out of which the monuments were constructed were probably quarried from the coral reefs, though there is a strong traditionary evidence that many of them came from distant Polynesian islands.

From the close of the 18th century the history of Tonga can be obtained from the chronicles of Europeans who visited the islands or from European missionary sources. During the first half of the 19th century the islands were the scene of civil wars. These were finally checked during the reign of King George I who had by conquest gathered all power into his own hands. He was finally proclaimed King in 1845. King George I came strongly under missionary influence and, though his rule was absolute, he determined to grant a Constitution, based on the English model, to the Tongans. This Constitution, granted over fifty years ago, has been from time to time amended, yet in essentials the present Constitution differs little from the original. King George died in 1893, at the age of ninety-six, after a memorable reign of nearly fifty years. He was the creator of modern Tonga. He was succeeded by his great-grandson, King George II. The present monarch, Queen Salote Tubou, succeeded to the throne on the death of her father King George Tubou II in 1918.

A Protectorate was proclaimed over Tonga in 1900 and a British Agent appointed.

The language of the group is Tongan, though the laws and Government Gazettes are published in both English and Tongan.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

Under the Constitution of Tonga the Government is divided into three bodies, the Queen, Privy Council, and Cabinet; the Legislative Assembly; and the Judiciary. The chief executive body is the Queen-in-Council, and executive decisions of lesser import are taken in Cabinet over which the Premier presides. The law-making power is vested in the Assembly which consists of the members of the Privy Council, seven nobles elected by their peers, and seven representatives elected by the people. Elections are held triennially. A limited law-making power is vested in the Privy Council; any legislation passed by the Executive is subject to review at the next meeting of the Legislature. At present the technical and financial departments are administered by European members of the Tongan civil service, and Tongan ministers control the other departments. The northern group of islands, Haapai and Vavau, together with the outlying islands, are administered by Tongan Governors who are members of, and responsible to, the Executive. Minor Tongan officials perform statutory duties in connexion with the village life of the people.

No constitutional changes took place during the year.

III.—POPULATION.

The Tongan population at the census taken in April, 1931, was 27,700. The increase in the population during the last ten years was 16·58 per cent.

The figures for other races are as follows:—

Europeans	482
Half-castes	265
Other Pacific Islanders	336
Others	56

The incidence of the non-Tongan population has not varied appreciably during the last ten years.

The average density of population for all races is 134·13 per square mile.

The following figures show the vital statistics of the Tongan population for the five years ending 31st December last:—

Year.	*Number of Births.*	*Birth-rate.*
1927	976	37·65
1928	960	36·09
1929	1,010	37·25
1930	1,109	39·91
1931	1,145	40·30

As regards the sexes of the children born the following table shows the proportion for the last five years :—

Year.	*Males.*	*Females.*
1927	1,029·1	1,000
1928	1,111·8	1,000
1929	1,048·8	1,000
1930	1,084·5	1,000
1931	1,014·1	1,000

The illegitimate births amounted to 201. The following table shows the proportion of illegitimate births to every 100 births during the last five years :—

Year.	*Percentage.*
1927	15·47
1928	18·54
1929	19·52
1930	16·84
1931	17·53

The following table shows the number of deaths and the death-rate for the last five years :—

Year.	*Number of Deaths.*	*Death-rate.*
1927	297	11·07
1928	476	17·80
1929	424	15·65
1930	338	12·03
1931	430	15·08

The following table shows the infant mortality rate for the last five years :—

Year.	*In per cent. of deaths.*	*In per mille of births.*
1927	11·10	37·90
1928	19·90	64·58
1929	16·98	71·42
1930	19·20	58·80
1931	16·70	62·80

The following table sets out the total number of marriages performed and the marriage rate for the last five years :—

Year.	*Total Number.*	*Rate per mille of population.*
1927	252	9·64
1928	238	8·94
1929	286	10·55
1930	285	10·30
1931	228	7·52

The Chief Justice of Tonga is the Registrar-General of births, marriages, and deaths of Tongan subjects. Registration in the case of British subjects and foreigners is provided for under the provisions of the Pacific Order in Council, 1893, and Regulations made thereunder, and is effected at the office of the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

IV.—HEALTH.

The Medical Department of the Government of Tonga consists of four medical officers, a dentist, a European nurse, and a Tongan staff. Three Tongan students graduated at the Central Medical School in Fiji in December, and three students are in residence. The Tongans receive free medical attention. Other patients are charged fees on a scale laid down by the Executive. Fees are paid direct into revenue. The dentist receives a retaining fee from the Government. Tongans receive free treatment in cases of extractions and temporary stoppings. They are also treated freely for pyorrhoea, the incidence of which is heavy.

Provision was made for an expenditure of £8,783 on medical and health services. This sum is equivalent to 12·32 per cent. of the estimated revenue for the year. There are three hospitals in Tonga. The main hospital at Nukualofa, though it does not possess an X-ray plant, is in other respects well equipped to meet the needs of the community. It consists of European and Tongan wards, three maternity wards, in separate buildings, and a dispensary. The other hospitals are in Haapai and Vavau. They are suitable for local requirements.

Tonga is purely an agricultural country. There are no estates in the commonly accepted sense of the term. Reference to the system of land tenure is made below. In recording statistical information as to the prevalence of disease it follows that the figures refer only to the home life of the people and the question of disease caused by work in factories or mines does not arise.

The following table shows the nature of the diseases treated during the year and the number of cases :—

Disease.	*Nukualofa.*	*Haapai.*	*Vavau.*	*Total.*
Ankylostomiasis	4	—	7	11
Tetanus	3	1	1	5
Leprosy	1	—	1	2
Dengue Fever	61	1	—	62
Conjunctivitis	221	13	93	327
Trachoma	54	1	7	62
Gonorrhoea	13	—	13	26
Syphilis	—	—	1	1

Disease.	*Nukualofa.*	*Haapai.*	*Vavau.*	*Total.*
Yaws	246	108	157	511
Typhoid Fever	65	71	22	158
Dysentery	12	9	3	24
Tuberculosis	132	85	91	308
Pneumonia	70	3	24	97
Influenza	4,821	846	1,629	7,296
Varicella	38	—	3	41
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	1	—	—	1
Puerperal Fever	3	1	1	5

Dispensary attendances amounted to 28,062 in Nukualofa, 8,171 in Haapai, and 11,175 in Vavau. During the year 64 major operations and 2,070 minor operations were performed. General anaesthetics were administered in 30 cases, local in 1,391, and spinal in 5 cases.

The total number of admissions to the three hospitals was 163.

As regards the infectious diseases treated during the year there was a large increase in the incidence of influenza. In 1929 and 1930, 3,822 and 2,865 cases respectively were reported. The disease assumed epidemic proportion in Vavau during the cool weather and rapidly spread throughout the group. On the whole the type was not severe. There was a total mortality of ten in the reported cases.

There were 25 deaths due to pneumonia. It was of the lobular type and streptococcus was found in all the sputa examined. In 1928, 1929, and 1930 there were 230, 142, and 72 cases with a total mortality of 37, 22, and 9 respectively.

The reported cases of typhoid show an increase. The figures for 1928, 1929, and 1930 were 199, 80, and 77. Approximately half of the reported cases occurred in the Haapai group where the incidence of typhoid has always been heavy. During the year 3,976 anti-typhoid inoculations were given. The total number of deaths from typhoid fever was 9.

The incidence of dysentery was light. The cases reported were 24 as against 120 and 55 in 1929 and 1930 respectively. Five deaths were ascribed to dysentery.

The reported tuberculosis cases increased from 198 and 257 in 1929 and 1930, respectively, to 308. The increase is considered apparent rather than real as certain cases reported from Haapai were previously reported from other districts. Deaths due to tuberculosis amounted to 52.

The number of reported cases of yaws was 511 as against 1,130, 643, and 604 during the previous three years. During the year 1,327 injections of Novarsenobillon were given.

The reported case of encephalitis lethargica was well marked. It dated from an attack of "illness" in Sydney when the patient was returning to Tonga from the Solomon Islands eight years ago.

The dentist treated 635 patients. Extractions numbered 1,076, fillings 298, and miscellaneous treatments 277. The cases of pyorrhoea treated amounted to 41.

The value of institutional treatment of maternity cases is becoming appreciated by the Tongans. Women are presenting themselves at the hospitals for ante-natal examination and 69 cases were admitted during the year to the recently constructed maternity wards at the hospital in Nukualofa. A ward is in course of construction in the hospital at Haapai.

As regards sanitation, the work of erecting cement latrines has been completed and the use of a standard pattern approved by the Board of Health is compulsory. Progress, though slow, is being made in the construction of cement tanks for water conservation and in the repair of existing village tanks. In the past many large tanks were built in Tonga with no catchment area except their own roofs. The village churches afforded excellent catchment but there was a repugnance among the Tongans to use the church roof for this purpose. This antipathy has now disappeared. There are no rivers or streams in Tonga and it is essential, in the interest of public health, that a complete system of rain-water conservation tanks be installed. As a prevention against typhoid and dysentery the necessity of an unpolluted supply of drinking water is apparent. During periods of drought the people are frequently dependent on well-water for general domestic purposes.

V.—HOUSING.

The Tongan native house is built of reed sides and thatched roof. It is illegal to build a house less than twelve feet in length and proportionately broad. The average size, however, is approximately twenty feet long and twelve feet broad. The native kitchen is merely a shelter built apart from the dwelling house. Ordinary pots are used for cooking purposes, but on special occasions food is always prepared in a native oven. This consists of a pit about three feet deep which is lined with stones. The stones are heated by means of a flue and the food—pork, fish, or fowl, and native root crops—is baked among the stones, which are covered with leaves and earth.

The Tongan in later years has shown a preference for the European type of house and approximately half of the houses are now of wooden construction with corrugated iron roof. These cottages consist of one or more rooms and verandah. While they lack the picturesqueness of the native house they are easier to maintain. The tendency to prefer the European type of house is accentuated by the fact that the supply of wood and thatching materials suitable for house building is limited. There is no housing problem in Tonga and a wage-earning class may be said not to exist, as the people are peasant proprietors. The houses are the property of the people. Legal provision is made for an annual inspection of houses and if any house is found to be in bad repair or badly drained it is lawful for the Tongan District Officer to order the owner to rebuild

or provide proper drainage. Provision is also made for the weeding of the land around the houses and an inspection is made in the towns every two months to ensure that town sites are kept clean.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Tonga is purely an agricultural country. The chief crop is copra and production is almost entirely confined to the Tongans. There are a few European leaseholds but the percentage of copra exported by European planters is negligible. The Tongan is a peasant proprietor and cultivates in person his statutory area of 8¼ acres to which reference is made below. Plantation labour, in the ordinary sense of the term, does not therefore exist. Approximately 20 per cent. of the coco-nut crop is consumed locally. It is used for cooking and drinking purposes, or for feeding pigs and fowl. The average annual value of the copra crop exported during the past five years has been approximately £200,000. Every Tongan taxpayer is an actual or potential copra producer. There are at present 7,500 taxpayers. European influence has not, in the past, speaking generally, had any material influence on the method of copra production by the Tongan. In modern times legislation has been passed to provide for the proper spacing of newly-planted trees, and it is now an incident of the tenure of the 8¼ acre allotment of a Tongan that one-half of the area should be planted with coco-nut trees in rows, and so arranged that the trees are thirty feet apart. The legislation further provides for the weeding and inspection of allotments. The Tongan cultivator in the past planted his coco-nut trees closely together and it is difficult to persuade the ordinary farmer that a thinning out of over-planted areas will result in an increased crop. Legislative provision was made five years ago having for its object the improvement in the quality of copra exported, and it is an offence for a trader to have in his possession bad or damaged copra. Prior to the war there was a considerable trade with New Zealand in bananas and citrus fruits, but the absence of direct communication with the Dominion, which ceased during the war, killed the trade. During the year satisfactory transport arrangements were made and banana production for export purposes recommenced. The first shipment of fruit was made in December. At the end of the year approximately 1,600 acres had been planted in bananas by individual farmers. The Tongan does not use the ordinary banana, to any degree, as a food-stuff and fruit production over market requirements would be used as feeding stuff for pigs. Sufficient experience of the fruit export trade has not yet been gained to estimate its value to the country.

The main vegetable food of the Tongan consists of yams, taro, kumalas, and plantains. The approximate area under root crops is 8,000 acres. These crops are grown for local consumption only and it would be impossible to form any accurate estimate of their value.

The soil throughout the group is very fertile and in Tongatabu European vegetables of most summer varieties are easily grown except during the hot months of December to April. They are cultivated chiefly for local consumption by Europeans. The amount produced is limited by the extent of the available market.

Live-stock production is confined, in general, to pigs, cattle, and goats. There is no export of live-stock. There are approximately 18,000 pigs in the group. They are used as a food-stuff by the Tongans and on ceremonial occasions they form an important part of the feast. Cattle are limited in number and owned chiefly by Europeans. The younger Tongan is showing a tendency to keep cows. This, however, is a modern development due to contact with Europeans. The Tongan does not as a rule sell his pigs and it would be difficult therefore to form an estimate of their value. The number of goats is negligible.

There is no mineral production in Tonga.

There are no fisheries.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The following table shows the value of the import and export trade during the last five years :—

Year.	*Imports.*	*Exports.*
	£	£
1927	157,783	235,391
1928	211,907	287,668
1929	198,078	259,090
1930	148,306	169,610
1931	81,170	90,596

The export trade during the year was confined to copra except for a banana shipment, to which reference has been made above, in December. Copra is exported on optional bills of lading and is mostly sold on the Continent. The quantity and value of copra exports during the last five years are as follows :—

Year.	*Tons.*	*Value.*
		£
1927	11,252	225,044
1928	15,671	282,083
1929	16,860	252,911
1930	14,134	169,609
1931	8,929	80,361

The imports, apart from benzine, kerosene, timber, and a small quantity of drapery, were of Empire origin. The following table shows the countries of origin and value of imports from these countries during the last five years :—

Country of origin.	*Year.* 1927. £	1928. £	1929. £	1930. £	1931. £
New Zealand	67,655	81,213	64,426	51,811	33,246
Australia	41,637	57,387	47,327	37,674	22,766
United Kingdom	22,471	34,851	36,494	29,707	9,309
Other British Territories...	14,276	13,931	16,835	11,485	6,223
United States of America...	8,822	20,487	23,482	12,065	7,377
Other Foreign Countries ...	2,922	4,042	9,513	5,564	2,249
	157,783	211,907	198,078	148,306	81,170

The volume of trade from the United Kingdom is greater than statistics indicate, as goods from the United Kingdom, which are imported from New Zealand, Australia, or Fiji, are classified in the Customs returns of the Tongan Government as imports from the latter countries. Goods classified under "Other British Territories" are imports from Fiji and a small amount from Canada. Goods classified under "Other Foreign Countries" are imports chiefly from Japan.

The details and value of the principal imports during the last five years are as follows :—

General Description.	*Year.* 1927. £	1928. £	1929. £	1930. £	1931. £
Bags, gunny	7,374	11,403	12,315	6,721	2,798
Beer	1,525	1,823	1,748	1,661	1,092
Benzine	5,126	4,430	6,025	2,745	2,436
Biscuits	3,128	4,485	3,793	2,995	1,451
Butter	2,004	2,494	2,244	1,904	1,636
Cigars and cigarettes ...	1,003	1,006	685	920	325
Cordage and rope	1,230	1,988	1,814	1,168	716
Drapery	27,778	43,347	42,112	29,453	13,345
Flour	10,071	13,034	12,257	11,000	8,252
Galvanized ware	2,836	5,030	5,684	2,650	1,017
Hardware	6,311	9,262	8,845	6,129	3,343
Meats, tinned	27,022	29,365	22,753	21,168	10,508
Motor cars and parts ...	5,486	4,095	5,877	6,095	767
Soap	2,121	2,751	2,108	2,145	1,454
Spirits	1,960	2,103	1,910	2,017	1,186
Sugar	4,553	6,263	5,644	4,251	3,349
Timber	3,136	11,799	8,278	4,791	1,519
Tobacco	1,386	3,159	2,017	1,848	1,029

The heavy fall in copra export was due to the effects of hurricane and drought. The continued fall in the price of the commodity, together with the decreased production, had a serious effect upon trade. The position is fully illustrated by the comparative figures set out above. Local commercial houses were living, to a large

degree, on existing stocks and fresh importations were restricted to a minimum. The principal change in the direction of trade during the year was the fall in imports from the United Kingdom due to the decreased spending power of the people and the adverse exchange position. In the latter half of the year imports from the United States of America, except oils, practically ceased. Imports from the United Kingdom consist chiefly of drapery and hardware. There is a ready market for Manchester prints, suitable for native clothing, and for other cotton wearing apparel reasonably costed. The market for galvanized roofing is increasing owing to the tendency of the Tongans to substitute wooden houses for thatched cottages. The market for the British light motor car is limited. Benzine is retailed at 2s. 6d. per gallon and the advantages of the low horse-powered car in the matter of running expenses are obvious. At the end of the year 102 private cars and 70 commercial vehicles were registered in Tonga. Of these only 12 cars and 5 lorries were British. Imports from New Zealand and Australia consist chiefly of flour, tinned meats, beer, and tobacco. Gunny bags, used for sacking copra, are of Indian origin.

The import trade, as the figures illustrate, is chiefly with the United Kingdom and Empire countries. The Tongan is, for practical purposes, dependent on copra for his income, and a return to a normal export will reflect itself in trade figures and increased trade with the Empire.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

It is difficult to draw a comparison between the cost of living in the United Kingdom and Tonga on account of the general difference in conditions. The general tariff on imported goods is 12½ per cent. *ad valorem*; freight charges on imports are high. There is, on the other hand, no income-tax. Supplies of fresh meat, milk, eggs, poultry, and ice are obtainable in Nukualofa, the seat of Government. In outlying islands fresh meat, milk, and ice are not procurable. Excellent vegetables are obtainable in Nukualofa, except during the months of December to April, at reasonable prices. The following table shows the current prices of certain necessary commodities :—

Sugar	...	...	...	5d. per lb.
Tea	...	...	...	4s. per lb.
Butter	...	...	...	1s. 9d. per lb.
Flour	...	...	...	3d. per lb.
Onions	...	...	...	4d. per lb.
Eggs	...	...	...	2s. 6d. per dozen.
Bacon	...	...	...	2s. per lb.
Bread	...	...	...	6d. per 2 lb. loaf.
Meat	...	...	...	10d. to 1s. per lb.
Poultry	...	...	...	3s. a fowl.
Kerosene	...	...	...	21s. 6d. per 8 gallon case.

The only material changes during the year in these prices have been a decrease in the cost of butter by 3d. in the lb. and in bread from 7d. to 6d. for the 2 lb. loaf. Kerosene, on the other hand, has increased in price from 18s. 6d. to 21s. 6d. a case.

The household budget of an official will, on the whole, be approximately 25 per cent. higher in Tonga than in the United Kingdom.

The number of labourers employed in Tonga is negligible. The Tongan cultivates his own farm. A few Solomon Islanders, Fijians, and Indians work in the stores or on European plantations. The average wage of a store labourer is £6 to £7 a month without food. These labourers are brought from Fiji and their passages are paid by their employers. The hours of work of a labourer in stores are 9 hours a day. The Government employs Tongan labour on the roads. The unskilled man receives 5s. a day. Labourers on plantations are few in number. They receive similar wages to store labourers.

Domestic servants are expensive. Tongan men do not engage in domestic duties and Tongan girls receive a wage of £2 10s. to £3 *per mensem* and food. Indian cooks from Fiji, when procurable, receive a wage of £6 to £7 *per mensem*, with food, and in addition their fares from and to Fiji are paid by their employers.

The staple food-stuff of the Tongan is root crops grown on his own farm. He uses his pigs as a meat diet. Fish, locally caught, is extensively eaten. It would be difficult to assess with any degree of accuracy his cost of living. When labourers are rationed by employers the cost is £2 per month. They are given a diet similar to that of the Tongan.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

The early history of education in Tonga is closely associated with the activities of the Christian Missions. The Government, however, decided on the establishment of State schools at an early stage in the development of the country; there are references to such schools in speeches by King George I delivered fifty years ago. In 1882 the first King founded Tonga College. He made a personal gift of the valuable site on which the College was built and also endowed it with a large area of planting land. Since its foundation over 4,000 students have been in residence.

Some years before Tonga College was founded the King had founded Tubou College. The Wesleyan Mission since 1826 had carried out educational work but the foundation of the College in 1866 marked a definite advance. Girls were admitted to Tubou College in 1870 and it is on record that girls have been captains of the whole school.

In 1888 the Roman Catholic Mission founded Api Foou College for the further training of selected boys from parochial schools.

In the various Tongan Codes of Law which have been published during the last fifty years statutes dealing with education have been included. In 1927 a comprehensive Act was passed. Education is compulsory for all Tongans between the ages of six and fourteen years. The schools, under the Education Act, are divided into three types, primary, middle, and high. The primary schools provide an elementary education in the vernacular. There are 71 Government and 44 denominational primary schools. The average daily attendance throughout the year was 4,878. The Tongan population at the census taken in April, 1931, was 27,700. Of this total 7,500 are taxpayers, i.e., males over the age of sixteen years. The number of males and females in the country is approximately the same. If, therefore, allowance is made for the children who have not reached the school age and those between the ages of 14 and 16 years, it will be seen that practically all Tongans between the ages of six and fourteen attend the primary schools. These schools provide an education in accordance with a Government syllabus and are subject to inspection. Elementary instruction is given in the three Rs, history of Tonga, geography, hygiene, singing, needlework, and native arts. The buildings of the Government primary schools were, until the year 1930, provided and maintained by the taxpayers of the villages. By an amending law of that year they are charged on general revenue. Education is free. In all primary schools there is co-education.

It has not yet been possible to establish the middle schools provided for in the Act. At these an elementary education on an English basis will be given. In the primary schools the medium of instruction is Tongan, but in several of these elementary instruction in English is now given.

The Colleges to which reference has been made above provide a general secondary education of a simple nature. They are residential.

The staff at the Government College consists of three European masters, five Tongan masters, and a bandmaster. There are 194 boys in residence. The ordinary academic subjects are taught; the medium of instruction is English. The boys grow their own food, mostly vegetables and root crops, on the College plantation. The College brass band during term gives a weekly recital in the War Memorial Band Rotunda in Nukualofa and plays on official occasions. The band was first formed in the College in 1886 under the conductorship of the grandson of the Royal founder of the College.

The Director of Education, who is also principal of the College, conducts an annual course of instruction at the College for head teachers from the primary schools during the long vacation. Instruction is practical and theoretical and the results have proved useful. For financial reasons the course was not held during the year.

Tubou College is a Free Wesleyan Church Mission school. It is now divided into two parts, the boys' school at Nafualu and the girls' at Nukualofa. Both are residential. At the end of the year there were 206 boys and 79 girls in residence. The staff at the boys' school consists of one European and four Tongans; at the girls' there is one European and one Tongan teacher. The objective of the school at Nafualu is the training of boys in academic subjects to fit them for general usefulness in the country and especially in the Church, as primary school teachers in Mission schools. In examinations conducted by the Government the record of the school is particularly good. It possesses a Museum housed in a historic Tongan church which was removed from Nukualofa and re-erected in the school grounds. The Museum building is the finest example of Tongan architecture now extant. The collection consists of over 200 exhibits.

At the girls' school the curriculum is similar to that taught in the boys' school, domestic science being substituted for the agricultural training given to the boys.

At Api Foou College, there are 84 students in residence. The staff consists of two Europeans and six Tongans.

Secondary education for girls, apart from Mission effort, is undeveloped.

No provision is made by the Government for the education of European children. The Missions have schools which the children attend. Instruction of an elementary type only is given.

A scholarship scheme was inaugurated in 1927 under which Tongan students from the secondary schools proceed abroad for higher education. At present three scholars are in residence at Newington College, Australia, and three scholars have entered the Central Medical School, Fiji. The value of the scholarships is £150 per annum at Newington College and £100 per annum at the Medical School.

Expenditure on educational services amounted to £7,118. This sum is equivalent to 9·30 per cent. of the total expenditure of the year.

During the year an Education Commission was appointed to report, *inter alia*, upon the present administration of the Education Department, with special reference to the supervision and inspection of primary schools, the training of teachers, and the suitability or otherwise of the primary school syllabus. The Commission had not concluded its deliberations at the end of the year.

The Government of Tonga contributes to the funds of the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies.

Games play an important part in Tongan school life. The Tongan is a keen Rugby footballer and cricketer and a particularly good tennis player. The sports meeting between Tonga College and Tubou College is one of the big events of Tongan social life. At the girls' school basket ball is extensively played.

The Tongan is a keen musician. Brass and string bands exist in most of the principal towns.

The Tongan is keen also on concerts at which European and Tongan items are performed. Considerable ability is displayed in staging simple plays which are frequently included in concert programmes.

On account of the nature of Tongan polity it is unnecessary to make any provision for orphanages or for the maintenance of persons incapacitated by sickness or accident or for the aged. In all these cases care and maintenance devolve upon the relatives who assume responsibility as a matter of course.

During the year a "European Aid Society" was formed in Nukualofa having for its object the assistance of aged Europeans. The Society is a voluntary one and is kept in funds by small uniform subscriptions from residents. It represents a modest effort on the part of Europeans to render assistance to deserving cases which have arisen in the community.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

There is monthly communication with Auckland by a vessel of the Union Steamship Company. This vessel, after calling at Fiji *en route*, visits three ports in Tonga and returns to Auckland via Samoa and Fiji. A call is made at Niuafoou on the voyage from Samoa to Fiji for mail purposes. The mail until last year was carried to and from the ship by swimmers as anchorage at the island is impossible. The old custom of swimming the mail was discontinued as one of the swimmers was taken by a shark. The mail is now, weather conditions permitting, transported by Tongan canoe. In addition to the monthly mail steamer eight vessels visited the Protectorate during the year for copra cargoes. Of these, two were British, five Swedish, and one American. The total tonnage of overseas vessels entered and cleared amounted to 132,867. Of this total, 87,484 was British, 29,590 Swedish, and 3,334 American.

Arrangements for direct communication with New Zealand were made during the year in connexion with the resuscitation of the fruit export trade, and the first fruit vessel called in December.

Inter-insular communication is maintained by a Government despatch boat. It is a small auxiliary ship fitted with semi-diesel engines.

Telephones and Wireless.

The Tongan Government maintains a wireless station at Nukualofa and sub-stations at Vavau, Haapai, Niuafoou, and Niuatobutabu. The sub-stations communicate only with the main station. Nukualofa radio communicates with Samoa and Fiji and thence to all parts of the world. The sub-stations are equipped with locally

built continuous wave valve transmitters rated at 20 watts input. The power supplied for the valves is furnished by a battery of Leclanche-type primary cells. The sub-stations are operated by Tongans who received training locally. The system, considering the limited experience the operators have had, has worked satisfactorily.

The following table shows the traffic handled during the year and the revenue received :—

Station.	*Messages.*	*Received.*	*Despatched.*	*Revenue.* £
Nukualofa	Government	—	139	40
	Ordinary	1,161	1,121	295
Vavau	Government	86	87	30
	Ordinary	856	1,156	205
Haapai	Government	55	69	25
	Ordinary	441	507	100
Niuafoou	Government	7	15	5
	Ordinary	40	95	14
Niuatobutabu ...	Government	23	41	15
	Ordinary	113	184	33

Summary of Traffic Handled.

Messages.	*Words.*	*Revenue.* £
7,960	67,394	762

(Including British Government and other free telegrams not shown above).

The terminal charge of the Nukualofa radio for all Tongan stations is 6d. per word from abroad. The inter-insular charge is 4d.

There is a telephone system in Nukualofa which is administered by the Superintendent of Telegraphs. There are 77 subscribers.

The following statement shows the total revenue and expenditure on wireless and telephone services during the year :—

		£
Revenue.	Wireless Fees	762
	Telephone Fees	387
		£1,149
		£
Expenditure.	Personal Emoluments	1,461
	Other charges	468
	Extraordinary expenditure ...	134
		£2,063

The wireless operators in the sub-stations perform also the duties of district clerks and are paid from the vote of the department to which they are attached.

Roads.

There are approximately 40 miles of metalled road in Tongatabu and fourteen miles in Vavau suitable for motor traffic. The by-roads are graded earth roads ; they are unsuitable for heavy traffic during rains.

There are no railways in the islands.

Posts.

Postal communication with the outside world is maintained by the monthly vessel of the Union Steamship Company. Foreign mails are also despatched by copra vessels. The Collectors of Customs act as Postmasters at the three ports. There are sub-post offices in some of the main villages of Tongatabu. British postal orders are issued at the chief post offices. Money orders are also issued. During the year the total value of stamps sold amounted to £752. Money orders to a value of £20,162 were issued and orders to a value of £663 paid. Postal orders issued and paid amounted in value to £417 and £9 respectively.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

A Government Savings Bank was established in 1926. The following statistics show the operations of the Bank since its institution :—

Year.	*Deposits.*	*Withdrawals.*
	£	£
1926	3,495	558
1927	7,929	3,900
1928	12,341	9,713
1929	11,359	8,528
1930	23,689	14,228
1931	15,930	11,358

The total amount at the credit of depositors at the end of the year was £26,459.

The number of depositors at the end of the year was :—

Tongans	403
Europeans and others	160

Interest at the rate of 4 per cent. is allowed on the first £500 deposited and at the rate of 3 per cent. for an additional amount up to £1,000.

The invested funds of the Bank amount to £23,600.

There is no other bank in Tonga.

There are no Building, Co-operative, or Friendly Societies.

Currency.

British and Australian coin was made the currency of Tonga by a Statute passed by the Tongan Parliament in 1906. Tongan Government notes were issued in 1919; at the present time notes to the value of £21,268 are in circulation. The issue is secured by a coin and investment reserve.

Weights and Measures.

British weights and measures are, by Statute, the standard weights and measures of the country.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The Works Department of the Government of Tonga consists of an Engineer, a Foreman, a Travelling Foreman, a Fitter, a Blacksmith, a Roads Foreman, and a Tongan staff. Works beyond the capacity of the local Department are carried out by contractors abroad. The Department possesses plant and rolling stock suitable for local requirements. During the year, for financial reasons, works were reduced to a minimum. The activities of the Department were confined to maintenance work on public buildings and on the roads. No works extraordinary were undertaken.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

There are two jurisdictions in Tonga, the British and the Tongan.

The British Agent holds a commission as a Deputy Commissioner of His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner's Court for the Western Pacific. He is a Judicial Commissioner in Divorce. Under the provisions of the Treaty of 1900, jurisdiction in civil matters is exercised by the British Court over British subjects and foreigners. The British Court has jurisdiction in probate and divorce matters where British subjects and foreigners are parties. In criminal cases British subjects and foreigners charged with an offence against the laws of Tonga, not including crimes punishable by death or by imprisonment exceeding two years, are amenable to the jurisdiction of the Courts of Tonga. The reserved cases are justiciable in the British Court.

The jurisdiction of the British Court is exercised in conformity with the provisions of the Pacific Order in Council of 1893. The principles of British law, so far as circumstances admit, are applied. The judicial work of the British Agent is light. During the year one criminal and twelve civil cases were heard and determined, seven grants of probate and administration issued, and one divorce petition was heard.

The Courts of the Tongan Government have full jurisdiction over Tongans and the limited jurisdiction stated above over British subjects and foreigners. The Tongan judicial system is based on the British model, and trial by jury, in cases where the accused are Tongans, is provided for in the Constitution.

The Justice Department of the Government of Tonga consists of the Chief Justice, the Land Judge, a European Magistrate, and three Tongan Magistrates. The Supreme Court exercises jurisdiction in all civil cases in which the amount claimed exceeds £50 and in all criminal cases where the maximum penalty exceeds a fine of £50 or two years' imprisonment; other cases are heard in the Magistrates' Courts. Where the person charged is a European the case is heard and determined by the European Magistrate if it comes within magisterial jurisdiction; other cases are tried by the Chief Justice sitting with two European assessors.

The Land Court Judge, sitting with a Tongan assessor, hears and determines land claims.

Serious crime among the Tongan people is of infrequent occurrence.

The following table shows the number of indictments which have been tried by the Chief Justice during the last five years :—

Year.	*Number of Indictments.*	*Convictions.*
1927	35	30
1928	31	26
1929	34	30
1930	34	25
1931	24	12

The following table shows the number of criminal cases heard and determined in the Magistrates' Courts during the last five years :—

Year.	*No. of Cases.*	*Convictions.*	*Acquittals.*
1927	5,805	4,520	1,285
1928	4,645	3,507	1,138
1929	4,646	3,270	1,376
1930	4,393	2,887	1,411
1931	2,590	1,839	727

Twenty-four cases were committed for trial.

The majority of the criminal cases heard in the Magistrates' Courts were for minor municipal and traffic offences.

The following table shows the number of convictions recorded during the last five years for the cases dealt with in the Magistrates' Courts other than municipal and traffic offences.

Offence.	*Year.*				
	1927.	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930.*	*1931.*
Theft	86	71	96	115	135
Trespass	58	25	30	42	19
Other offences against property ...	7	17	11	17	15
Assault	69	65	64	53	55
Fighting	14	16	18	9	21
Cruelty to animals	76	141	102	137	118

The various punishments imposed during the year in respect of the convictions in the Magistrates' Courts were as follows :—

Fines	1,675
Peremptory imprisonment	134
Whipping or whipping and imprisonment...	30

There is a considerable amount of civil litigation among the Tongans. During the year eight civil cases came before the Supreme Court and 1,697 actions were heard in the Magistrates' Courts.

There is an appeal from a Magistrate's decision to the Chief Justice in all civil cases and in every criminal case except when the defendant pleads guilty.

During the year the Chief Justice heard twenty-seven appeals, sixteen criminal and eleven civil. In the criminal appeals the sentences and fines imposed by the Magistrates were affirmed in three cases, in nine cases sentences were reduced, one case was remitted back, and two appeals were allowed. In the civil appeals the Magistrates' decisions were upheld in six cases, four cases were remitted back, and one appeal was allowed.

The Supreme Court heard ten cases in divorce. Decrees absolute were granted in all cases except one.

The Supreme Court in its probate jurisdiction granted Letters of Administration in one hundred and five cases. The following table shows the number of Grants of Probate or Letters of Administration which issued out of the Court during the last five years :—

Year.	*Number.*
1927	72
1928	82
1929	112
1930	78
1931	105

The total value of estates in 1931 was £9,790.

There are eighteen Tongan lawyers practising in the Courts. Licences to practise are issued by the Chief Justice. There is no educational qualification imposed, but the Chief Justice has a discretionary power to refuse to issue a licence to undesirable persons.

Police.

The Police Department is in charge of a Tongan Minister who is also the Public Prosecutor. The Department has a strength of one European Inspector, three Tongan Inspectors, and forty-five non-commissioned officers and men. The Tongan police, when called upon to do so, assist His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner's Court in making arrests and enforcing judgments.

The total expenditure of the Force for all services was £5,127. The cost of the Police per head of population was 3s. 6d.

The number of persons prosecuted by the Police for offences of all kinds during the last five years is as follows :—

Year.	*Number.*
1927	3,897
1928	3,679
1929	3,605
1930	3,487
1931	2,496

The great majority of these prosecutions were for offences of a trivial nature.

All traffic is controlled by the Force, which carries out the registration of motor vehicles and the examination of drivers.

In addition to ordinary police duties the Force is responsible for the inspection of villages and road frontages and the taking of the annual census.

Prisons.

The Minister of Police is in charge of the prisons. There is a main gaol at Nukualofa with sub-gaols at Haapai, Vavau, and the two Niuas. There is also a sub-gaol on the Government Agricultural Station at Vaikeli where prisoners grow food-stuffs for the Prison and Police Departments. Juvenile offenders are confined in the latter sub-gaol apart from adult prisoners. Crime among juveniles is very rare. All prisoners undergoing a sentence of over six months imprisonment are confined in the Nukualofa gaol. The number of prisoners in custody on 1st January and 31st December in the Nukualofa gaol was 42 and 35 respectively.

The main gaol at Nukualofa consists of two main wooden buildings, a woman's gaol, and a hospital. There is no provision for the confinement of prisoners in separate cells.

The sub-gaols consist of small wooden buildings suitable for local requirements.

Prisoners are visited regularly by the Medical Officer. The health of prisoners throughout the year was satisfactory.

Prisoners may earn remission of sentence by industry accompanied by good conduct. The maximum remission for prisoners undergoing a first term of imprisonment is one quarter of the sentence.

Orders for payments of fines made in the Magistrates' Courts are not enforced for fourteen days after the making of the order. If the law under which the order is made does not provide for imprisonment in default of payment a warrant of distress is then issued. In default of distress a warrant of commitment issues ordering a defendant to be imprisoned in respect of the sum still remaining unsatisfied by the distress for any term not exceeding the term specified in respect of a like sum in the scale of imprisonment provided in the Magistrates Act.

Provision is made in Tongan law for the probation of offenders. When any person is convicted of an offence, and the Court is of opinion, having regard to the character, age, health or mental condition of the person charged, or to the trivial nature of the offence, or to the extenuating circumstances under which it was committed, that it is inexpedient to inflict any other than a nominal punishment, or that it is expedient to release the offender on probation, the Court may, in lieu of imposing a sentence of imprisonment, make an order discharging the offender conditionally on his entering into a recognizance, with or without securities, to be of good behaviour and to appear for sentence when called upon at any time during such period not exceeding three years as may be specified in the order. When a probation order is made the Court is required to furnish the offender with a notice in writing stating in simple terms the conditions he is required to observe.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The following Acts were passed at the 1931 Session of the Tongan Parliament :—

1. The 1931–32 Appropriation Act.
2. The 1929–30 Supplementary Appropriation Act.
3. The Coinage Act Amendment Act.
4. The Drugs and Poisons Act Amendment Act.
5. The Criminal Offences Act Amendment Act.
6. Disinterment of Bodies and Desecration of Graves Act.
7. The Magistrates Act Amendment Act.
8. Public Health Act Amendment Act.
9. The Firearms Act Amendment Act.
10. The Customs Duties Act Amendment Act.
11. The Motor Traffic Act Amendment Act.

Act No. 3 prohibits the export of gold or silver coin without a permit from the Cabinet.

Act No. 5.—In the Tongan criminal code minimum sentences were prescribed for various offences. The Act conferred upon the Court a discretionary power in the fixing of a sentence.

Act No. 7.—In Tongan law a Magistrate could not proceed with a case in the defendant's absence even after service of process was proved. This was a provision found in old codes which was perpetuated. The amendment permits the case to proceed after proof of service.

Act No. 10 increased the duty from £1 5s. and £1 per proof and liquid gallon to £1 8s. and £1 3s. in the case of overproof and underproof spirits respectively.

The other Acts do not call for comment.

The following Ordinances were passed during the year :—

1. The Fruit Export Ordinance.
2. The Boxing Matches (Regulation) Ordinance.

In Tongan law the Queen-in-Council is empowered to pass Ordinances between the meetings of the Legislature. Ordinances so passed are placed before Parliament at its next subsequent meeting and, if agreed to, are passed as Acts.

Ordinance No. 2 was passed to regulate boxing matches. A permit from the police and a medical certificate of fitness are now necessary before a match can take place. The Tongan had developed an insatiable enthusiasm for boxing and it was found necessary to regulate the position.

The following Regulations were passed :—

1. Diseases of Plants.
2. Postal Orders.
3. Fruit Export.
4. Land Act.
5. Motor Traffic.

The Postal Orders Regulation empowered the Controller, with the consent of the Executive, to fix an extra poundage on postal orders. It was necessary to pass the Regulation on account of the exchange position.

The other Regulations passed call for no comment.

There is no factory legislation in Tonga. The country is purely agricultural.

There is no legislative provision for sickness or old age. In Tongan polity the sick or the aged are cared for by relatives who, as stated above, assume responsibility as a matter of course.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The Tongan financial year ends on 30th June. The revenue and expenditure totals for each of the last five years are as follows :—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1926–27	72,562	83,513
1927–28	86,626	83,208
1928–29	96,887	76,709
1929–30	89,505	85,442
1930–31	70,663	78,500

There is no public debt, and at the close of the last financial year the surplus funds of the country amounted to £140,495. These funds are invested in United Kingdom War Bonds, New Zealand,

Australian, Straits Settlements, Kenya and Nigeria Stock, and in fixed deposits with the Bank of New Zealand in Sydney and Auckland.

The main heads of taxation are the native tax, Customs dues, and trading licences.

The following table shows the yield of the Customs dues and native tax during the last five years :—

Year.	*Customs.*	*Native Tax.*
	£	£
1926–27	30,122	13,579
1927–28	36,582	12,719
1928–29	47,171	11,780
1929–30	41,902	11,919
1930–31	27,026	11,677

The general tariff on imported goods is 12½ per cent. *ad valorem*.

The principal specific duties are as follows:—

Beer, per gallon	1s. 6d.
Benzine, per gallon	4d.
Cigarettes, per lb.	8s.
Flour, per 150 lb.	2s. 3d.
Kerosene of 150 degrees or over, closed flash test, per gallon	3d.
Spirits of all kinds, the strength of which can be ascertained by Sykes' hydrometer and is proof or overproof, per proof gallon	28s.
Spirits of all kinds, the strength of which can be ascertained by Sykes' hydrometer and is under-proof, per liquid gallon	23s.
Sugar, per lb.	½d.
Timber, undressed, per 100 s. ft.	1s. 6d.
Timber, dressed, per 100 s. ft.	2s.
Tobacco, manufactured, per lb.	5s.

The principal articles on the free list are :—

Bags, new, for copra.
Agricultural machinery and implements.

There is an export tax on copra of £1 per ton.

There are no excise duties.

The principal stamp duties on documents are :—

Agreement or memorandum of agreement (whether the same be evidence of a contract or obligatory upon the parties from its being a written document).	
Where the value amounts to £1 but does not exceed £3	2d.

Where the value exceeds £3 but does not exceed £10 ... ... 1s.

Where the value exceeds £10 then for every additional £10 and also for every fractional part of £10 (but not to exceed ten shillings on any such document). ... ... 2s.

Bill of Lading and each copy ... ... 1s.

Bill of Exchange—

(1) Payable on demand or at sight or on presentation ... ... 2d.

(2) Payable otherwise than on demand, sight, or presentation, drawn or expressed to be payable in or actually paid or endorsed in any manner negotiated in the Kingdom.

For any sum not exceeding £50 ... ... 1s.

For every additional £50 and also for every fractional part of £50 ... ... 1s.

Promissory Note of any kind.

(Except a Bank Note or Currency Note).

For any sum not exceeding £5 ... ... 2d.

Exceeding £5 and not exceeding £25 ... ... 6d.

For every additional £25 and also for every fractional part of £25 ... ... 6d.

(Exemption—All Bills of Exchange or promissory notes issued by any bank for Government purposes to the Treasurer).

Lease or agreement for a lease or any written document for the tenancy or occupancy of any lands or buildings.

The following duties in respect of the rent at the rate per annum :

Where the rent does not exceed £25 ... ... 2s.

Where the rent exceeds £25 and does not exceed £50 ... ... 5s.

Above £50, for every £50 and also for every fractional part of £50 ... ... 5s.

Conveyance or transfer.

(1) of any lease ... ... 5s.

(2) on sale of any goods whether included in a transfer of a lease or not for every £50 and also for every fractional part of £50 ... 2s.

Mortgage, bond, debenture, or covenant.

(1) Being the only or principal or primary security for the payment or repayment of any money not exceeding £50 ... ... 2s.

For every additional £50 and also for every fractional part of £50 ... ... 2s.

(2) Transfer or assignment of any mortgage, bond, debenture, or covenant, and also where any further money is added to the money already secured. (The same rate of duty as (1).)

(3) Being a collateral, or auxiliary, or additional, or substituted security, or by way of further assurance for the above mentioned purposes:
Where the principal or primary security is duly stamped ... ... 2s.

(4) Reconveyance, release, or discharge of any such security as aforesaid or the benefit thereof, or of the money thereby secured ... 2s.

Receipt.

Given for or upon the payment of money.
Amounting to £2 or upwards but not exceeding £50 ... ... 2d.
Exceeding £50 or upwards but not exceeding £100 ... ... 4d.
Exceeding £100 ... ... 6d.

(Exemptions.
Receipts given for or upon the payment of money to or for the use of the Government of Tonga.
Receipts or discharges given by any person for the payment of wages or salary.
Receipts given for contributions for charitable institutions or religious bodies.)

All male Tongans, when they attain the age of sixteen years, pay a poll tax of 36s. per annum. The yield of the tax during the last five years is set out above. A register of taxpayers is kept by the district tax clerk. This register is revised annually from a list of taxpayers prepared by the District Officer. The tax is paid direct to the district clerk by the taxpayer. Exemption from the tax may be granted on the grounds of old age or sickness.

There is no hut tax.

XVI.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

The Tongan land system is, in many respects, unique. In historic times the Tongan lived on his farm rather than in village communities; the communal land ownership which is met with in parts of the Pacific is unknown in Tonga. In the 18th century the troubled condition of the land drove the peasant proprietors to take refuge together in fortresses, and out of these fortresses the modern village has grown. The remains of many old trenches

exist to-day. Although the necessity for living together for purposes of mutual protection disappeared in the middle of last century, the people did not revert to their old mode of life and the town is now an accepted part of Tongan polity.

The historic system of land tenure was feudal. The great chiefs held of the King and they sub-divided their lands among their followers. Through the chiefs the King received tribute and they in turn exacted feudal dues from the people. In the first Constitution of Tonga, granted by the King over fifty years ago, it was expressly enacted that the Kingdom was the King's. The King, however, confirmed in their ancestral holdings the high chiefs and out of the royal and chiefs' estates holdings were granted to the people. In course of time a grant which was made in return for service in cash or kind became the right of the people and a law was passed which entitled every Tongan, when he became a taxpayer, to two holdings, a house site in the village, and tax lands in the bush.

It is not possible, within the limits of this Report, to develop further the evolution of the Tongan land system ; it is felt, however, that a brief reference to the system of the past is necessary before the present system of tenure is shortly described.

Every Tongan male, when he attains the age of sixteen and thereby becomes a taxpayer, is entitled to a tax allotment of $8\frac{1}{4}$ acres in the bush and a town site not exceeding 132 feet square. He obtains the grant upon application to the Minister of Lands. The Minister makes the allotment from the estate of the chief on which the applicant resides. If land is not available on such estate the allotment is made from the estate of another chief who is willing to provide it. If no allotment is made under this latter provision Crown land is utilized. If the applicant is already resident on Crown land, the allotment is made therefrom in the first place. The rental for the tax allotment is 8s. per annum. It is paid to the Crown or the chief according to where the allotment is made. No rent is charged for the village site.

Provision is made in law for ejectment for non-payment of rent or for a non-compliance with the planting section of the law. It is mandatory on every holder, as an incident of tenure, within one year of the grant to plant 200 coco-nut trees on his allotment, properly spaced as provided by law. Provision is made for the survey and registration of grants. Upon the death of a holder his widow is entitled to a life estate in the allotment and devolution is expressly provided for. No Tongan may hold two tax allotments, but he may obtain a lease of an extra area.

Provision was made in 1927 to enable a Tongan to receive, upon application made, in lieu of the grants referred to, an area of $12\frac{3}{8}$ acres of tax land in the bush for which he pays a rental of 4s. If he obtains such allotment, he is not eligible for a town site. It was

hoped by reducing the rental and increasing the area to induce the people to live on the land rather than in the village. It was also hoped that Tongans who lived in congested islands would transfer to other islands where the larger areas at the reduced rentals were available. So far only eleven applications have been received for the 12⅜-acre blocks.

Without the consent of the Executive no chief or allotment holder may grant a lease or make any agreement in respect of his land. The mortgaging of growing crops is illegal.

It is a curious fact that many Tongans do not take advantage of their statutory right to land. There is no compulsion to apply. At the present time allotments are held by 6,882 taxpayers and 433 widows; there are 1,434 taxpayers who have not applied for an allotment. The non-holders have increased by 199 during the year. These persons live in towns or on their fathers' cultivated allotments to which they hope in time to succeed. In other cases there is a disinclination to leave an island which is fully settled. Ample land is available for a full development of the land system and if every taxpayer was an allotment holder approximately one-half of the area of the country would still be available for distribution.

The interest of a Tongan in land, whether he is a chief or a commoner, is a life estate. His ownership is limited in point of disposition; it possesses certain attributes of an estate in fee tail which the holder for life cannot bar. The land system is of interest as being an example of a system grafted by law upon the polity of a people and becoming a leading feature of that polity.

The survey work performed by the Government surveyors consisted in demarcating tax and town allotments. Lease and road surveys were also carried out. The number of European leases in Tonga is 1,580 of a total area of 7,393 acres. The majority of the leases, apart from residences in the towns, consist of store sites and the small trading stations of the large commercial houses.

J. S. NEILL,

His Britannic Majesty's Agent and Consul, Tonga.

BRITISH AGENCY AND CONSULATE,
TONGA.

12th July, 1932.

APPENDIX.

Meteorological Summary for the Year 1931.

Nukualofa Station.

(Lat. 21-7-58.6 S. Long. 175-11-59.1 W.)

Monthly Means.

Month.	*Barometer.*	*Dry Bulb.*	*Wet Bulb.*	*Relative Humidity.*	*Max. Temp.*	*Min. Temp.*	*Rainfall.*	*Wind.*
				Per cent.				
Jan. ...	29·888	81·0	75·3	76·1	84·1	73·0	1·62	ESE
Feb. ...	29·817	80·8	73·6	70·0	84·7	73·1	0·44	ESE
Mar. ...	29·917	78·3	74·6	83·7	82·1	73·5	19·58	ESE'ly
April ...	29·983	79·8	76·0	83·0	83·0	74·1	1·22	E'ly
May ...	30·022	75·0	70·9	81·0	79·2	68·4	3·11	ESE'ly
June ...	30·054	72·3	68·9	83·3	76·7	65·8	12·60	SE'ly
July ...	30·073	72·5	67·7	77·2	77·2	66·1	2·97	E'ly
Aug. ...	30·004	72·6	67·6	76·2	76·6	66·3	8·34	ESE'ly
Sept. ...	30·023	73·4	68·4	77·0	77·2	65·3	6·97	SE'ly
Oct. ...	29·987	74·3	69·5	78·1	78·0	65·9	2·35	SE'ly
Nov. ...	29·947	76·1	72·1	81·7	79·3	69·8	8·68	ESE'ly
Dec. ...	29·913	79·0	73·8	77·8	82·3	70·3	1·60	E'ly
Means ...	29·969	76·2	71·5	78·7	80·0	69·3	69·48 Total	ESE'ly
					74·6			

	Barometer.	*Humidity.*	*Air Temperature.*
Highest:	30·230 on 9th June.	100 per cent. on 4th, 18th March and 15th June.	87° on 20th April.
Lowest:	29·268 on 4th March.	51·5 per cent. on 23rd August.	56·2° on 22nd September.

Cyclonic Storms: Storm Niuafoou, 15th–16th February. Storm Haapai and Nukualofa, 4th March. Haapai, lowest barometer 29·16, wind NE 9–11. Nukualofa, lowest barometer 29·268, wind SSE var. 7–9.

Number of days on which rain fell: 171.

Most rain in any 24-hour period: 8·52 inches on 6th June.

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EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS.

Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research and other Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926, to March, 1932. Cmd. 4121. 9*d*. (10*d*.).

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Imperial Sugar Cane Research Conference, 1931. Report of Proceedings. 2*s*. 6*d*. (2*s*. 11*d*.).

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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF TONGA FOR THE YEAR 1932

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1. Meteorological Summary.
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I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Kingdom of Tonga consists of three main groups of islands called respectively Tongatabu, Haapai, and Vavau, together with the outlying islands of Niuafoou, Niuatobutabu, and Tafahi.

The main groups are situated between the 18th and 22nd degrees of South latitude and the 173rd and 176th degrees of West longitude, and extend over an area of approximately 250 square miles.

The islands consist of two parallel chains running north and south. The western chain is volcanic in formation and the eastern coralline. With the exception of Tofua and Falcon Islands the volcanoes are dormant or extinct.

The island of Niuatobutabu was discovered by the Dutch navigators Schouten and Lemaire in 1616. They did not visit the main groups.

In 1643 Tongatabu was discovered by Tasman, and from that year until 1767, when Wallis anchored at Niuatobutabu, there was no contact with the outside world. Captain Cook visited Tongatabu and the Haapai group in 1773 and again in 1777, and named the islands the Friendly Islands. In 1789 Captain Bligh visited the Haapai group. It was in the waters of this group that the mutiny of the *Bounty* occurred.

Niuafoou was discovered by Captain Edwards in H.M.S. *Pandora* in the year 1791.

Contact with the outside world was now established.

Climate.

The climate of the Tongan group from May to November is good for the tropics. The thermometer rarely registers higher than 80 degrees and the humidity during these months is, as a rule, relatively low. During the wet season, from December to April, the temperature rarely rises above 90 degrees, but the humidity, especially when the wind is northerly, is high. This season is trying for Europeans. The meteorological summary for the year is appended to this Report.

History.

The early history of Tonga is enshrouded in myth, and any attempt to reconstruct the past is based on the list of the Tui Tonga, the ancient kings. This list has been compiled by ethnologists and dates back to the 10th century. The extent of the dominions of these ancient kings is not clearly known, but there is evidence that they possessed overlordship over a vast area of Polynesia, whence they received tribute. The kingship was hereditary and the power of the Tui Tonga was absolute. About the 15th century, after the murder of a Tui Tonga, his successor, while retaining his sacred powers, divested himself of much of his executive authority, which he transferred to his brother whom he henceforth called the Tui Haatakalaua. At this time it may be said that there were two kings in Tonga, the spiritual and the temporal. About the middle of the 17th century the temporal king transferred his executive power to a brother, retaining for himself the presentation of offerings from his people. The new chief was called the Tui Kanokupolu, and succession to the title, though not hereditary, was kept within the family. From the date of the creation of the new title the powers of the Tui Tonga and the Tui Haatakalaua gradually passed into

the hands of the Tui Kanokupolu and in the middle of the 19th century, upon the death of the then Tui Tonga, the insignia of the ancient title of the Tui Tonga were conferred upon the Tui Kanokupolu, King George I, the founder of the reigning dynasty. While the evolution of a sacred line of chiefs is not without historic parallel, the double delegation of powers renders difficult the true understanding of the ancient Tongan polity.

Evidence remains in modern Tonga of the power of the ancient kings in the form of the stone monuments which still exist. Chief of these is the Haamonga—a trilithon consisting of two large coral upright stones about 16 feet high, with a connecting stone, 19 feet long, laid horizontally across and mortised into the tops of the upright pieces, the visible parts of which are estimated to weigh between 30 and 40 tons. It was probably erected about the 13th century. Tradition is not consistent as to the reason which impelled the then Tui Tonga to erect this monument, but it is evidentiary of an absolute power. Its state of preservation is excellent. Other evidence of the powers of the ancient kings is to be found in the langis, the royal burial grounds which still exist in Tonga. They consist of quadrilateral mounds, faced by huge blocks of stone, rising sometimes in terraces to a height of 20 feet. The stones are coral, of immense weight, and can only have been placed in position by the concerted labour of a large body of men skilled in the use of rollers and levers. The stones out of which the monuments were constructed were probably quarried from the coral reefs, though there is a strong traditionary evidence that many of them came from distant Polynesian islands.

From the close of the 18th century the history of Tonga can be obtained from the chronicles of Europeans who visited the islands or from European missionary sources. During the first half of the 19th century the islands were the scene of civil wars. These were finally checked during the reign of King George I who had by conquest gathered all power into his own hands. He was finally proclaimed King in 1845. King George I came strongly under missionary influence and, though his rule was absolute, he determined to grant a Constitution, based on the English model, to the Tongans. This Constitution, granted over fifty years ago, has been from time to time amended, yet in essentials the present Constitution differs little from the original. King George died in 1893, at the age of ninety-six, after a memorable reign of nearly fifty years. He was the creator of modern Tonga. He was succeeded by his great-grandson, King George II. The present monarch, Queen Salote Tubou, D.B.E., succeeded to the throne on the death of her father King George Tubou II in 1918.

A Protectorate was proclaimed over Tonga in 1900 and a British Agent appointed.

The language of the group is Tongan, though the laws and Government Gazettes are published in both English and Tongan.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

Under the Constitution of Tonga the Government is divided into three bodies, the Queen, Privy Council, and Cabinet; the Legislative Assembly; and the Judiciary. The chief executive body is the Queen-in-Council, and executive decisions of lesser import are taken in Cabinet over which the Premier presides. The law-making power is vested in the Assembly which consists of the members of the Privy Council, seven nobles elected by their peers, and seven representatives elected by the people. Elections are held triennially. A limited law-making power is vested in the Privy Council; any legislation passed by the Executive is subject to review at the next meeting of the Legislature. At present the technical and financial departments are administered by European members of the Tongan civil service, and Tongan Ministers control the other departments. The northern group of islands, Haapai and Vavau, together with the outlying islands, are administered by Tongan Governors who are members of, and responsible to, the Executive. Minor Tongan officials perform statutory duties in connexion with the village life of the people.

No constitutional changes took place during the year.

III.—POPULATION.

The Tongan population at the census taken in April, 1932, was 28,381. The increase in the population during the year ending April, 1932, was 2·46 per cent.

The figures for other races are as follows:—

Europeans	412
Half-castes	397
Other Pacific Islanders	222
Others	42

The incidence of the non-Tongan population has not varied appreciably during the last ten years.

The average density of population for all races is 136·99 per square mile.

The following figures show the vital statistics of the Tongan population for the five years ending 31st December last:—

Year.	*Number of Births.*	*Birth-rate.*
1928	960	36·09
1929	1,010	37·25
1930	1,109	39·91
1931	1,145	40·30
1932	1,180	40·47

As regards the sexes of the children born the following table shows the proportion for the last five years :—

Year.	*Males.*	*Females.*
1928	1,111·8	1,000
1929	1,048·8	1,000
1930	1,084·5	1,000
1931	1,014·1	1,000
1932	1,156·6	1,000

The illegitimate births amounted to 182. The following table shows the proportion of illegitimate births to every 100 births during the last five years :—

Year.	*Percentage.*
1928	18·54
1929	19·52
1930	16·84
1931	17·53
1932	15·42

The following table shows the number of deaths and the death-rate for the last five years :—

Year.	*Number of Deaths.*	*Death-rate.*
1928	476	17·80
1929	424	15·65
1930	338	12·03
1931	430	15·08
1932	417	14·64

The following table shows the infant mortality rate for the last five years :—

Year.	*In per cent. of deaths.*	*In per mille of births.*
1928	19·90	64·58
1929	16·98	71·42
1930	19·20	58·80
1931	16·70	62·80
1932	21·10	74·50

The following table sets out the total number of marriages performed and the marriage rate for the last five years :—

Year.	*Total Number.*	*Rate per mille of population.*
1928	238	8·94
1929	286	10·55
1930	285	10·30
1931	228	7·52
1932	243	8·02

The Chief Justice of Tonga is the Registrar-General of births, marriages, and deaths of Tongan subjects. Registration in the case of British subjects and foreigners is provided for under the provisions of the Pacific Order in Council, 1893, and Regulations made thereunder, and is effected at the office of the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

IV.—HEALTH.

The Medical Department of the Government of Tonga consists of four medical officers, a dentist, a European nurse, and a Tongan staff. Three Tongan students who graduated at the Central Medical School, Suva, in December, 1931, remained in Fiji throughout the year for a post-graduate course of a practical nature. They returned to Tonga in January of this year and have now assumed duty. There are four stu lents at present in residence at the School. The Tongans receive free medical attention. Other patients are charged fees on a scale laid down by the Executive. Fees are paid direct into revenue. The dentist receives a retaining fee from the Government. Tongans receive free treatment in cases of extractions and temporary stoppings. They are also treated freely for pyorrhoea, the incidence of which is heavy.

Provision was made for an expenditure of £8,790 on medical and health services. This sum is equivalent to 13·32 per cent. of the estimated revenue for the year. There are three hospitals in Tonga. The main hospital at Nukualofa, though it does not possess an X-ray plant, is in other respects well equipped to meet the needs of the community. It consists of European and Tongan wards, three maternity wards, in separate buildings, and a dispensary. The other hospitals are in Haapai and Vavau. They are suitable for local requirements.

Tonga is purely an agricultural country. There are no estates in the commonly accepted sense of the term. Reference to the system of land tenure is made below. In recording statistical information as to the prevalence of disease it follows that the figures refer only to the home life of the people and the question of disease caused by work in factories or mines does not arise.

Disease.	*Nukualofa.*	*Haapai.*	*Vavau.*	*Total.*
Ankylostomiasis	72	4	13	89
Tetanus	5	—	—	5
Leprosy	—	—	2	2
Conjunctivitis	192	10	102	304
Trachoma	86	2	18	106
Gonorrhoea	22	—	19	41
Yaws	282	111	182	575
Typhoid Fever	37	61	67	165
Dysentery	10	2	—	12
Diphtheria	2	—	—	2
Croup	8	—	—	8
Tuberculosis	140	37	79	256
Pneumonia	67	1	19	87
Influenza	3,256	447	864	4,567
Varicella	41	—	—	41
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	2	1	—	3

Dispensary attendances amounted to 19,592 in Nukualofa and 10,994 in Vavau. A record is not available of the number of attendances at Haapai. During the year 95 major operations and 2,748 minor operations were performed. General anaesthetics were administered in 83 cases, local in 1,849, and spinal in 13 cases.

The total number of admissions to the three hospitals was 228.

Visits to patients amounted to 8,947 in Nukualofa, 5,289 in Haapai, and 2,539 in Vavau. The total number of public health visits was 935.

As regards the infectious diseases treated during the year there was a decrease in the incidence of influenza as compared with the year 1931, during which 7,296 cases were treated. In 1929 and 1930, 3,822 and 2,865 cases respectively were reported.

Comparative figures of reported cases of typhoid are as follows:—

Year.	*Number of Cases.*
1928	199
1929	80
1930	77
1931	158
1932	165

During the year 4,004 anti-typhoid inoculations were given as compared with 3,976 in the year 1931.

Comparative figures of reported cases of dysentery are as follows:—

Year.	*Number of Cases.*
1929	120
1930	55
1931	24
1932	12

Comparative figures of reported cases of tuberculosis are as follows:—

Year.	*Number of Cases.*
1929	198
1930	257
1931	308
1932	256

Comparative figures of reported cases of yaws are as follows:—

Year.	*Number of Cases.*
1928	1,130
1929	643
1930	604
1931	511
1932	575

During the year 1,571 injections for yaws were given as compared with 1,327 in the year 1931.

The dentist treated 809 patients. Extractions numbered 1,077, fillings 273, and miscellaneous treatments 163. The cases of pyorrhoea treated amounted to 63.

The value of institutional treatment of maternity cases is becoming appreciated by the Tongans. Women are presenting themselves at the hospitals for ante-natal treatment. Special maternity wards are attached to the hospitals in Nukualofa and Haapai.

As regards sanitation, the work of erecting cement latrines has been completed and the use of a standard pattern approved by the Board of Health is compulsory. Progress, though slow, is being made in the construction of cement tanks for water conservation and in the repair of existing village tanks. In the past many large tanks were built in Tonga with no catchment area except their own roofs. The village churches afforded excellent catchment but there was a repugnance among the Tongans to use the church roof for this purpose. This antipathy has now disappeared. There are no rivers or streams in Tonga and it is essential, in the interest of public health, that a complete system of rain-water conservation tanks be installed. As a prevention against typhoid and dysentery the necessity of an unpolluted supply of drinking water is apparent. During periods of drought the people are frequently dependent on well-water for general domestic purposes.

V.—HOUSING.

The Tongan native house is built of reed sides and thatched roof. It is illegal to build a house less than twelve feet in length and proportionately broad. The average size, however, is approximately twenty feet long and twelve feet broad. The native kitchen is merely a shelter built apart from the dwelling house. Ordinary pots are used for cooking purposes, but on special occasions food is always prepared in a native oven. This consists of a pit about three feet deep which is lined with stones. The stones are heated by means of a flue and the food—pork, fish, or fowl, and native root crops—is baked among the stones, which are covered with leaves and earth.

The Tongan in later years has shown a preference for the European type of house and approximately half of the houses are now of wooden construction with corrugated iron roof. These cottages consist of one or more rooms and veranda. While they lack the picturesqueness of the native house they are easier to maintain. The tendency to prefer the European type of house is accentuated by the fact that the supply of wood and thatching materials suitable for house building is limited. Economic depression has, however, checked the substitution of the thatched cottage by the wooden house. There is no housing problem in Tonga and a wage-earning class may be said not to exist, as the people are peasant proprietors. The houses are the property of the people. Legal provision is made for an annual inspection of houses and if any house is found to be in bad repair or badly drained it is lawful for the Tongan District Officer to order the owner to rebuild or provide proper drainage. Provision is also made for the weeding of the land around the houses and an inspection is made in the towns every two months to ensure that town sites are kept clean.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Tonga is purely an agricultural country. The chief crop is copra and production is almost entirely confined to the Tongans. There are a few European leaseholds but the percentage of copra exported by European planters is negligible. The Tongan is a peasant proprietor and cultivates in person his statutory area of $8\frac{1}{4}$ acres to which reference is made below. Plantation labour, in the ordinary sense of the term, does not therefore exist. Approximately 20 per cent. of the coconut crop is consumed locally. It is used for cooking and drinking purposes, or for feeding pigs and fowl. The average annual value of the copra crop exported during the past five years has been approximately £173,639. Every Tongan taxpayer is an actual or potential copra producer. There are at present 7,831 taxpayers. European influence has not, in the past, speaking generally, had any material influence on the method of copra production by the Tongan. In modern times legislation has been passed to provide for the proper spacing of newly-planted trees, and it is now an incident of the tenure of the $8\frac{1}{4}$ acre allotment of a Tongan that one-half of the area should be planted with coco-nut trees in rows, and so arranged that the trees are thirty feet apart. The legislation further provides for the weeding and inspection of allotments. The Tongan cultivator in the past planted his coconut trees closely together and it is difficult to persuade the ordinary farmer that a thinning out of over-planted areas will result in an increased crop. Legislative provision was made in 1926 having for its object the improvement in the quality of copra exported, and it is an offence for a trader to have in his possession bad or damaged copra. Prior to the war there was a considerable trade with New Zealand in bananas and citrus fruits, but the

absence of direct communication with the Dominion, which ceased during the war, killed the trade. During the year 1931 satisfactory transport arrangements were made and banana production for export purposes recommenced. The first shipment of fruit was made in December, 1931. In 1932 exports amounted to 47,659 cases valued at £10,452. In 1932 an arrangement was concluded with His Majesty's Government in New Zealand allotting a quota share of the Dominion banana market to Fiji and Tonga. The combined quota for the two Administrations was fixed at 12,000 cases from May to September, and 15,000 cases from October to April. The Tongan share of the quota was subsequently fixed at 20 per cent. of the total Fiji-Tonga quota, and Tonga commenced shipments on this basis in January, 1933. The Tongan does not use the ordinary banana, to any degree, as a food-stuff and fruit production over market requirements would be used as feeding stuff for pigs.

The main vegetable food of the Tongan consists of yams, taro, kumalas, and plantains. The approximate area under root crops is 8,000 acres. These crops are grown for local consumption only and it would be impossible to form any accurate estimate of their value.

The soil throughout the group is very fertile and in Tongatabu European vegetables of most summer varieties are easily grown except during the hot months of December to April. They are cultivated chiefly for local consumption by Europeans. The amount produced is limited by the extent of the available market.

Live-stock production is confined, in general, to pigs, cattle, and goats. There is no export of live-stock. There are approximately 17,000 pigs in the group. They are used as a food-stuff by the Tongans and on ceremonial occasions they form an important part of the feast. Cattle are limited in number and owned chiefly by Europeans. The younger Tongan is showing a tendency to keep cows. This, however, is a modern development due to contact with Europeans. The Tongan does not as a rule sell his pigs and it would be difficult therefore to form an estimate of their value. The number of goats is negligible.

There is no mineral production in Tonga.

There are no fisheries.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The following table shows the value of the import and export trade during the last five years :—

Year.	*Imports.*	*Exports.*
	£	£
1928	211,907	287,668
1929	198,078	259,090
1930	148,306	169,610
1931	81,170	90,596
1932	86,006	96,163

The export trade during the year was confined to copra and bananas. Copra is exported on optional bills of lading, and is mostly sold on the Continent. The quantity and value of copra exports during the last five years are as follows :—

Year.	*Tons.*	*Value.*
		£
1928	15,671	282,083
1929	16,860	252,911
1930	14,134	169,609
1931	8,929	80,361
1932	8,323	83,228

The imports, apart from benzine, kerosene, and drapery, were of Empire origin. The following table shows the countries of origin and value of imports from these countries during the last five years :—

Country of origin.	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*
	£	£	£	£	£
New Zealand	81,213	64,426	51,811	33,246	29,743
Australia	57,383	47,327	37,674	22,766	28,759
United Kingdom	34,851	36,494	29,707	9,309	10,495
Other British Territories...	13,931	16,835	11,485	6,223	5,111
United States of America...	20,487	23,482	12,065	7,377	5,224
Other Foreign Countries ...	4,042	9,513	5,564	2,249	6,674
	211,907	198,078	148,306	81,170	86,006

The quantity of goods of United Kingdom origin is greater than the statistics indicate, as certain imports from New Zealand and Australia are United Kingdom goods re-consigned. The same position applies also to goods of Japanese origin. The principal imports from the United Kingdom are drapery and hardware. During the year there was a considerable importation of cheap Japanese drapery. Goods classified under "Other British Territories" are imports from Fiji and a negligible amount from Canada. Goods classified under "Other Foreign Countries" are imports chiefly of drapery from Japan. Imports from the United States of America consist mostly of benzine and kerosine.

The details and value of the principal imports during the last five years are as follows :—

General Description.	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Bags, gunny	11,403	12,315	6,721	2,798	5,959
Beer	1,823	1,748	1,661	1,092	1,098
Benzine	4,430	6,025	2,745	2,436	2,373
Biscuits	4,485	3,793	2,995	1,451	1,011
Butter	2,494	2,244	1,904	1,636	1,273
Cigars and cigarettes ...	1,006	685	920	325	388
Cordage and rope	1,988	1,814	1,168	716	830

General Description.	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Drapery	43,347	42,112	29,453	13,345	16,185
Flour	13,034	12,257	11,000	8,252	4,990
Galvanized ware	5,030	5,684	2,650	1,017	1,224
Hardware	9,262	8,845	6,129	3,343	2,636
Meats, tinned	29,365	22,753	21,168	10,508	10,691
Motor cars and parts ...	4,095	5,877	6,095	767	**447**
Soap	2,751	2,108	2,145	1,454	1,646
Spirits	2,103	1,910	2,017	1,186	867
Sugar	6,263	5,644	4,251	3,349	2,392
Timber	11,799	8,278	4,791	1,519	367
Tobacco	3,159	2,017	1,848	1,029	1,291

The continued heavy fall in copra export was due to the cumulative effects of hurricanes and drought which, during the last three years, have affected various islands in the group. In addition to these natural causes the disastrous fall in price had a tendency to discourage production. The position is fully illustrated by the comparative figures set out above. Local commercial houses continued to live, to a large degree, on existing stocks and fresh importations were restricted to a minimum. Imports from the United Kingdom, owing to the adverse exchange position and the decreased spending power of the people, show little change as compared with the year 1931. These imports consisted chiefly of hardware, drapery, and galvanized manufactures.

The principal change in the direction of trade during the year was the increase of imports from Japan. These consisted chiefly of cheap drapery. There is a ready market for Manchester prints, suitable for native clothing, and for other wearing apparel reasonably costed. The market for the British light motor car is limited. Benzine is retailed at 2s. 6d. per gallon and the advantages of the low horse-powered car in the matter of running expenses are obvious. At the end of the year 98 private cars and 47 commercial vehicles were registered in Tonga. Of these only 12 cars and 4 lorries were British. Imports from New Zealand and Australia consist chiefly of flour, tinned meats, beer, and tobacco. Gunny bags, used for sacking copra, are of Indian origin.

The import trade, as the figures illustrate, is chiefly with the United Kingdom and Empire countries. The Tongan is, for practical purposes, dependent on copra for his income, and a return to a normal export will reflect itself in trade figures and increased trade with the Empire.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

It is difficult to draw a comparison between the cost of living in the United Kingdom and Tonga on account of the general difference in conditions. The general tariff on imported goods is $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. *ad valorem*; freight charges on imports are high. There is, on the

other hand, no income-tax. Supplies of fresh meat, milk, eggs, poultry, and ice are obtainable in Nukualofa, the seat of Government. In outlying islands fresh meat, milk, and ice are not procurable. Excellent vegetables are obtainable in Nukualofa, except during the months of December to April, at reasonable prices. The following table shows the current prices of certain necessary commodities :—

Sugar	5d. per lb.
Tea	3s. 8d. per lb.
Butter	1s. 9d. per lb.
Flour	3d. per lb.
Onions	4d. per lb.
Eggs	2s. 6d. per dozen.
Bacon	1s. 9d. per lb.
Bread	6d. per 2 lb. loaf.
Meat	10d. to 1s. per lb.
Poultry	3s. a fowl.
Kerosene	22s. per 8 gallon case.

The only material changes during the year in these prices have been a decrease in the cost of tea and bacon of 4d. and 3d. a lb. respectively. Kerosene has increased in price by 6d. a case.

The household budget of an official will, on the whole, be approximately 25 per cent. higher in Tonga than in the United Kingdom.

The number of labourers employed in Tonga is negligible. The Tongan cultivates his own farm. A few Solomon Islanders, Fijians, and Indians work in the stores or on European plantations. The average wage of a store labourer is £6 to £7 a month without food. These labourers are brought from Fiji and their passages are paid by their employers. The hours of work of a labourer in stores are 9 hours a day. The Government employs Tongan labour on the roads. The unskilled man receives 5s. a day. Labourers on plantations are few in number. They receive similar wages to store labourers.

Domestic servants are expensive. Tongan men do not engage in domestic duties and Tongan girls receive a wage of £2 10s. to £3 *per mensem* and food. Indian cooks from Fiji, when procurable, receive a wage of £6 to £7 *per mensem*, with food, and in addition their fares from and to Fiji are paid by their employers.

The staple food-stuff of the Tongan is root crops grown on his own farm. He uses his pigs as a meat diet. Fish, locally caught, is extensively eaten. It would be difficult to assess with any degree of accuracy his cost of living. When labourers are rationed by employers the cost is £2 per month. They are given a diet similar to that of the Tongan.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

The early history of education in Tonga is closely associated with the activities of the Christian Missions. The Government, however, decided on the establishment of State schools at an early stage in the development of the country; there are references to such schools in speeches by King George I delivered fifty years ago. In 1882 the first King founded Tonga College. He made a personal gift of the valuable site on which the College was built and also endowed it with a large area of planting land. Since its foundation over 4,000 students have been in residence. The College celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of its foundation during the year. A special feature of the celebrations was the unveiling of a memorial stone in honour of King George Tubou I, by Her Majesty Queen Salote Tubou, D.B.E. The stone was a gift from the old boys.

Some years before Tonga College was founded the King had founded Tubou College. The Wesleyan Mission since 1826 had carried out educational work but the foundation of the College in 1866 marked a definite advance. Girls were admitted to Tubou College in 1870 and it is on record that girls have been captains of the whole school.

In 1888 the Roman Catholic Mission founded Api Foou College for the further training of selected boys from parochial schools.

In the various Tongan Codes of Law which have been published during the last fifty years statutes dealing with education have been included. In 1927 a comprehensive Act was passed. Education is compulsory for all Tongans between the ages of six and fourteen years. The schools, under the Education Act, are divided into three types, primary, middle, and high. The primary schools provide an elementary education in the vernacular. There are 69 Government and 42 denominational primary schools. The average daily attendance throughout the year was 5,480. The Tongan population at the census taken in April, 1932, was 28,381. Of this total 7,831 are taxpayers, i.e., males over the age of sixteen years. The number of males and females in the country is approximately the same. If, therefore, allowance is made for the children who have not reached the school age and those between the ages of 14 and 16 years, it will be seen that practically all Tongans between the ages of six and fourteen attend the primary schools. These schools provide an education in accordance with a Government syllabus and are subject to inspection. Elementary instruction is given in the three Rs, history of Tonga, geography, hygiene, singing, needlework, and native arts. The buildings of the Government primary schools were, until the year 1930, provided and maintained by the taxpayers of the villages. By an amending law of that year they are charged on general revenue. Education is free. In all primary schools there is co-education.

It has not yet been possible to establish the middle schools provided for in the Act. At these an elementary education on an

English basis will be given. In the primary schools the medium of instruction is Tongan, but in several of these elementary instruction in English is now given.

The Colleges to which reference has been made above provide a general secondary education of a simple nature. They are residential.

The staff at the Government College consists of three European masters, five Tongan masters, and a bandmaster. There are 200 boys in residence. The ordinary academic subjects are taught; the medium of instruction is English. The boys grow their own food, mostly vegetables and root crops, on the College plantation. The College brass band during term gives a weekly recital in the War Memorial Band Rotunda in Nukualofa and plays on official occasions. The band was first formed in the College in 1886 under the conductorship of the grandson of the Royal founder of the College.

The Director of Education, who is also principal of the College, conducts an annual course of instruction at the College for head teachers from the primary schools during the long vacation. Instruction is practical and theoretical and the results have proved useful. For financial reasons the course was not held during the year.

Tubou College is a Free Wesleyan Church Mission school. It is now divided into two parts, the boys' school at Nafualu and the girls' at Nukualofa. Both are residential. At the end of the year there were 233 boys and 78 girls in residence. The staff at the boys' school consists of two Europeans and three Tongans; at the girls' there is one European and one Tongan teacher. The objective of the school at Nafualu is the training of boys in academic subjects to fit them for general usefulness in the country and especially in the Church, as primary school teachers in Mission schools. In examinations conducted by the Government the record of the school is particularly good. It possesses a Museum housed in an historic Tongan church which was removed from Nukualofa and re-erected in the school grounds. The Museum building is the finest example of Tongan architecture now extant. The collection consists of over 200 exhibits.

At the girls' school the curriculum is similar to that taught in the boys' school, domestic science being substituted for the agricultural training given to the boys.

At Api Foou College, there are 80 students in residence. The staff consists of one European and one Tongan.

Secondary education for girls, apart from Mission, is undeveloped.

No provision is made by the Government for the education of European children. The Missions have schools which the children attend. Instruction of an elementary type only is given.

A scholarship scheme was inaugurated in 1927 under which Tongan students from the secondary schools proceed abroad for higher education. At present two scholars are in residence at Newington College, Australia, and three scholars have entered the Central Medical School, Fiji. The value of the scholarships is £150 per annum at Newington College and £100 per annum at the Medical School.

Expenditure on educational services amounted to £6,431. This sum is equivalent to 9·60 per cent. of the total expenditure of the year.

During the year 1931 an Education Commission was appointed to report, *inter alia*, upon the present administration of the Education Department, with special reference to the supervision and inspection of primary schools, the training of teachers, and the suitability or otherwise of the primary school syllabus. A recommendation of the Commission that primary school work should, so far as possible, be transferred to the Missions, assisted by grants-in-aid, has been approved in Parliament, but action has not yet been taken.

The Government of Tonga contributes to the funds of the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies.

Games play an important part in Tongan school life. The Tongan is a keen Rugby footballer and cricketer and a particularly good tennis player. The sports meeting between Tonga College and Tubou College is one of the big events of Tongan social life. At the girls' school basket ball is extensively played.

The Tongan is a keen musician. Brass and string bands exist in most of the principal towns.

The Tongan is keen also on concerts at which European and Tongan items are performed. Considerable ability is displayed in staging simple plays which are frequently included in concert programmes.

On account of the nature of Tongan polity it is unnecessary to make any provision for orphanages or for the maintenance of persons incapacitated by sickness or accident or for the aged. In all these cases care and maintenance devolve upon the relatives who assume responsibility as a matter of course.

During the year 1931 a " European Aid Society " was formed in Nukualofa having for its object the assistance of aged Europeans. The Society is a voluntary one and is kept in funds by small uniform subscriptions from residents. It represents a modest effort on the part of Europeans to render assistance to deserving cases which have arisen in the community.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

There is monthly communication with Auckland by a vessel of the Union Steamship Company. This vessel, after calling at Fiji and Samao *en route*, visits two ports in Tonga and returns direct

to Auckland. A call is made at Niuafoou on the voyage from Fiji to Samoa for mail purposes. This mail until 1930 was carried to and from the ship by swimmers as anchorage at the island is impossible. The old custom of swimming the mail was discontinued as one of the swimmers was taken by a shark. The mail is now, weather conditions permitting, transported by Tongan canoe. In addition to the monthly mail steamer eleven vessels visited the Protectorate during the year for copra cargoes. Of these, three were British, five Swedish, one American, and two Panamanian. The total tonnage of overseas vessels entered and cleared amounted to 124,908. Of this total, 76,104 was British, 14,217 Swedish, 2,429 American, and 2,084 Panamanian.

Inter-insular communication is maintained by a Government despatch boat. It is a small auxiliary ship fitted with semi-diesel engines.

Telephones and Wireless.

The Tongan Government maintains a wireless station at Nukualofa and sub-stations at Vavau, Haapai, Niuafoou, and Niuatobutabu. The sub-stations communicate only with the main station. Nukualofa radio communicates with Samoa and Fiji and thence to all parts of the world. The sub-stations are equipped with locally built continuous wave valve transmitters rated at 20 watts input. The power supplied for the valves is furnished by a battery of Leclanche-type primary cells. The sub-stations are operated by Tongans who received training locally. The new system, considering the limited experience the operators have had, has worked satisfactorily.

The following table shows the traffic handled during the year and the revenue received :—

Station.	*Messages.*	*Received.*	*Despatched.*	*Revenue.*
				£
Nukualofa	Government	—	201	57
	Ordinary	1,277	1,082	308
Vavau	Government	80	62	32
	Ordinary	697	863	170
Haapai	Government	38	58	18
	Ordinary	378	426	90
Niuafoou	Government	11	11	8
	Ordinary	70	105	23
Niuatobutabu ...	Government	36	112	6
	Ordinary	12	18	20

Summary of Traffic Handled.

Messages.	*Words.*	*Revenue.*
		£
7,416	57,427	730

(Including British Government and other free telegrams not shown above).

The terminal charge of the Nukualofa radio for all Tongan stations is 6d. per word from abroad. The inter-insular charge is 4d.

There is a telephone system in Nukualofa which is administered by the Superintendent of Telegraphs. There are 72 subscribers.

The following statement shows the total revenue and expenditure on wireless and telephone services during the year :—

		£
Revenue.	Wireless fees	730
	Telephone fees	274
		£1,004
		£
Expenditure.	Personal emoluments	1,206
	Other charges	345
		£1,551

The wireless operators in the sub-stations perform also the duties of district clerks and are paid from the vote of the department to which they are attached.

Twenty-nine broadcast receiving licences were issued during the year. Australian, New Zealand, or American programmes are heard daily provided atmospheric conditions are not unfavourable. The Empire Station at Daventry was heard, but not regularly, on the short wave and it is interesting to note that the broadcast which was best heard in Tonga during the year was intended for Africa and countries in the Atlantic zone. Recent experimental transmissions on the 19·8 metre wave have, however, been more consistently heard than any other transmissions.

Roads.

There are approximately 40 miles of metalled road in Tongatabu and fourteen miles in Vavau suitable for motor traffic. The by-roads are graded earth roads ; they are unsuitable for heavy traffic during rains.

There are no railways in the islands.

Posts.

Postal communication with the outside world is maintained by the monthly vessel of the Union Steamship Company. Foreign mails are also despatched by copra vessels. The Collectors of Customs act as Postmasters at the three ports. There are sub-post offices in some of the main villages of Tongatabu. British postal orders are issued at the chief post offices. Money orders are also

issued. During the year the total value of stamps sold amounted to £748. Money orders to a value of £7,197 were issued and orders to a value of £305 paid. Postal orders issued and paid amounted in value to £219 and £14 respectively.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

A Government Savings Bank was established in 1926. The following statistics show the operations of the Bank since its institution :—

Year.	*Deposits.*	*Withdrawals.*
	£	£
1926	3,495	558
1927	7,929	3,900
1928	12,341	9,713
1929	11,359	8,528
1930	23,689	14,228
1931	15,930	11,358
1932	19,763	15,546

The total amount at the credit of depositors at the end of the year was £30,676.

The number of depositors at the end of the year was :—

Tongans	475
Europeans and others	179

Interest at the rate of 3½ per cent. is allowed on the first £500 deposited and at the rate of 2½ per cent. for an additional amount up to £1,000.

The invested funds of the Bank amount to £28,387.

There is no other bank in Tonga.

There are no Building, Co-operative, or Friendly Societies.

Currency.

British and Australian coin was made the currency of Tonga by a Statute passed by the Tongan Parliament in 1906. Tongan Government notes were issued in 1919 ; at the present time notes to the value of £21,268 are in circulation. The issue is secured by a coin and investment reserve.

Weights and Measures.

British weights and measures are, by Statute, the standard weights and measures of the country.

XII.—PUPLIC WORKS.

The Works Department of the Government of Tonga consists of an Engineer, a Foreman, a Travelling Foreman, a Fitter, a Blacksmith, a Roads Foreman, and a Tongan staff. Works beyond the capacity of the local Department are carried out by contractors abroad. The Department possesses plant and rolling stock suitable for local requirements. During the year, for financial reasons, works were reduced to a minimum. The activities of the Department were confined to maintenance work on public buildings and on the roads. No works extraordinary were undertaken.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

There are two jurisdictions in Tonga, the British and the Tongan.

The British Agent holds a commission as a Deputy Commissioner of His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner's Court for the Western Pacific. He is a Judicial Commissioner in Divorce. Under the provisions of the Treaty of 1900, jurisdiction in civil matters is exercised by the British Court over British subjects and foreigners. The British Court has jurisdiction in probate and divorce matters where British subjects and foreigners are parties. In criminal cases British subjects and foreigners charged with an offence against the laws of Tonga, not including crimes punishable by death or by imprisonment exceeding two years, are amenable to the jurisdiction of the Courts of Tonga. The reserved cases are justiciable in the British Court.

The jurisdiction of the British Court is exercised in conformity with the provisions of the Pacific Order in Council of 1893. The principles of British law, so far as circumstances admit, are applied. The judicial work of the British Agent is light. During the year nine civil cases were heard and determined, one grant of letters of administration issued, and one divorce petition was heard.

The Courts of the Tongan Government have full jurisdiction over Tongans and the limited jurisdiction stated above over British subjects and foreigners. The Tongan judicial system is based on the British model, and trial by jury, in cases where the accused are Tongans, is provided for in the Constitution.

The Justice Department of the Government of Tonga consists of the Chief Justice, the Land Judge, a European Magistrate, and three Tongan Magistrates. The Supreme Court exercises jurisdiction in all civil cases in which the amount claimed exceeds £50 and in all criminal cases where the maximum penalty exceeds a fine of £50 or two years' imprisonment; other cases are heard in the Magistrates' Courts. Where the person charged is a European the case is heard and determined by the European Magistrate if it comes within magisterial jurisdiction; other cases are tried by the Chief Justice sitting with two European assessors.

The Land Court Judge, sitting with a Tongan assessor, hears and determines land claims.

Serious crime among the Tongan people is of infrequent occurrence.

The following table shows the number of indictments which have been tried by the Chief Justice during the last five years :—

Year.	*Number of Indictments.*	*Convictions.*
1928	31	26
1929	34	30
1930	34	25
1931	24	12
1932	36	26

The following table shows the number of criminal cases heard and determined in the Magistrates' Courts during the last five years :—

Year.	*No. of Cases.*	*Convictions.*	*Acquittals.*
1928	4,645	3,507	1,138
1929	4,646	3,270	1,376
1930	4,393	2,887	1,411
1931	2,590	1,839	727
1932	3,361	2,263	868

Sixty-six cases were committed for trial.

The majority of the criminal cases heard in the Magistrates' Courts were for minor municipal and traffic offences.

The following table shows the number of convictions recorded during the last five years for the cases dealt with in the Magistrates' Courts other than municipal and traffic offences :—

Offence.	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*
Theft	71	96	115	135	126
Trespass	25	30	42	19	4
Other offences against property ...	17	11	17	15	5
Assault	65	64	53	55	61
Fighting	16	18	9	21	12
Cruelty to animals	141	102	137	118	78

The various punishments imposed during the year in respect of the convictions in the Magistrates' Courts were as follows :—

Fines	2,099
Imprisonment for non-payment of fines ...	819
Peremptory imprisonment	127
Whipping or whipping and imprisonment...	37

There is a considerable amount of civil litigation among the Tongans. During the year eight civil cases came before the Supreme Court and 1,254 actions were heard in the Magistrates' Courts.

There is an appeal from a Magistrate's decision to the Chief Justice in all civil cases and in every criminal case except when the defendant pleads guilty.

During the year the Chief Justice heard twenty-two appeals, ten criminal and twelve civil. In the criminal appeals the sentences and fines imposed by the Magistrates were affirmed in three cases, in two cases sentences were reduced, and five appeals were allowed. In the civil appeals the Magistrates' decisions were upheld in six cases, two cases were remitted back, and four appeals were allowed.

The Supreme Court heard four cases in divorce. Decrees absolute were granted in all cases.

The Supreme Court in its probate jurisdiction granted Letters of Administration in eighty-seven cases. The following table shows the number of Grants of Probate or Letters of Administration which issued out of the Court during the last five years :—

Year.	*Number.*
1928	82
1929	112
1930	78
1931	105
1932	87

The total value of estates in 1932 was £7,628.

There are nineteen Tongan lawyers practising in the Courts. Licences to practise are issued by the Chief Justice. There is no educational qualification imposed, but the Chief Justice has a discretionary power to refuse to issue a licence to undesirable persons.

Police.

The Police Department is in charge of a Tongan Minister who is also the Public Prosecutor. The Department has a strength of one European Inspector, three Tongan Inspectors, and forty-three non-commissioned officers and men. The Tongan Police, when called upon to do so, assist His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner's Court in making arrests and enforcing judgments.

The total expenditure of the Force for all services was £4,472. The cost of the Police per head of population was 3s.

The number of persons prosecuted by the Police for offences of all kinds during the last five years is as follows :—

Year.	*Number.*
1928	3,679
1929	3,605
1930	3,487
1931	2,496
1932	3,345

The great majority of these prosecutions were for offences of a trivial nature.

All traffic is controlled by the Force, which carries out the registration of motor vehicles and the examination of drivers.

In addition to ordinary police duties the Force is responsible for the inspection of villages and road frontages, and the taking of the annual census.

Prisons.

The Minister of Police is in charge of the prisons. There is a main gaol at Nukualofa with sub-gaols at Haapai, Vavau, and the two Niuas. There is also a sub-gaol on the Government Agricultural Station at Vaikeli where prisoners grow food-stuffs for the Prison and Police Departments. Juvenile offenders are confined in the latter sub-gaol apart from adult prisoners. Crime among juveniles is very rare. All prisoners undergoing a sentence of over six months imprisonment are confined in the Nukualofa gaol. The number of prisoners in custody on 1st January and 31st December in the Nukualofa gaol was 35 and 32 respectively.

The main gaol at Nukualofa consists of two main wooden buildings, a women's gaol, and a hospital. There is no provision for the confinement of prisoners in separate cells.

The sub-gaols consist of small wooden buildings suitable for local requirements.

Prisoners are visited regularly by the Medical Officer. The health of prisoners throughout the year was satisfactory.

Prisoners may earn remission of sentence by industry accompanied by good conduct. The maximum remission for prisoners undergoing a first term of imprisonment is one quarter of the sentence.

Orders for payments of fines made in the Magistrates' Courts are not enforced for fourteen days after the making of the order. If the law under which the order is made does not provide for imprisonment in default of payment a warrant of distress is then issued. In default of distress a warrant of commitment issues ordering a defendant to be imprisoned in respect of the sum still remaining unsatisfied by the distress for any term not exceeding the term specified in respect of a like sum in the scale of imprisonment provided in the Magistrates Act.

Provision is made in Tongan law for the probation of offenders. When any person is convicted of an offence, and the Court is of opinion, having regard to the character, age, health or mental condition of the person charged, or to the trivial nature of the offence, or to the extenuating circumstances under which it was committed, that it is inexpedient to inflict any other than a nominal punishment, or that it is expedient to release the offender on probation, the Court may, in lieu of imposing a sentence of imprisonment, make an order discharging the offender conditionally on his entering into a recognizance, with or without securities, to be of good behaviour and to appear for sentence when called upon at any time

during such period not exceeding three years as may be specified in the order. When a probation order is made the Court is required to furnish the offender with a notice in writing stating in simple terms the conditions he is required to observe.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The following Acts were passed at the 1932 Session of the Tongan Parliament :—

1. The 1932–33 Appropriation Act.
2. The 1930–33 Supplementary Appropriation Act.
3. The Order in Public Places Amendment Act.
4. The Shipping Amendment Act.
5. The Motor Traffic Amendment Act.
6. The Immigration Restriction Act.
7. The Fruit Export Act.
8. The Boxing Matches (Regulation) Act.
9. The Firearms (Noxious Gas) Act.
10. The Licences Amendment Act.

Act No. 6.—This Act regulates immigration and provides that no person, save as excepted in section 11 of the Act, other than a Tongan subject by birth or naturalization, shall enter the country unless in possession of a permit issued by the Premier with the consent of the Executive. The restrictions imposed are additional to the immigration restrictions provided for in the Undesirable Immigrants Act of 1920 and the Passport Act of 1922.

Act No. 7.—This is an enabling Act empowering the Executive to make regulations governing the export of fruit.

Act No. 10.—This Act provides for the payment of a licence fee of £60 per annum by sellers of hop beer and gives the Police power to regulate the hours of sale. The possession of a licence does not entitle the holder to sell intoxicating liquor, within the meaning of the Liquor Act, to any prohibited person. The aim of the Act was to check the sale of hop beer to Tongans and other Pacific Islanders.

The other Acts do not call for comment.

The following Ordinances were passed during the year :—

1. The Firearms (Noxious Gas) Ordinance.
2. The Silver Coin (Importation) Ordinance.

In Tongan law the Queen-in-Council is empowered to pass Ordinances between the meetings of the Legislature. Ordinances so passed are placed before Parliament at its next subsequent meeting and, if agreed to, are passed as Acts.

Ordinance No. 2 was passed to control the import of silver. A condition precedent to import is a permit from the Executive.

The following Regulations were passed :—

1. Fruit Export.
2. Land Act.
3. Savings Bank.
4. Wireless Telegraphy.

The Fruit Export Regulations fixed the price for bananas exported through the agency of the Government.

The Savings Bank Regulation was passed to reduce the interest payable on fixed deposits. The rate was reduced from 4 per cent. to 3½ per cent. on deposits up to £500, and from 3 per cent. to 2½ per cent. on deposits in excess of £500 up to the maximum deposit of £1,000.

The Wireless Telegraphy Regulation prescribed the conditions governing the issue of Receiving Licences.

The Land Act Regulation calls for no comment.

There is no factory legislation in Tonga. The country is purely agricultural.

There is no legislative provision for sickness or old age. In Tongan polity the sick or the aged are cared for by relatives who, as stated above, assume responsibility as a matter of course.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The Tongan financial year ends on 30th June. The revenue and expenditure totals for each of the last five years are as follows :—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1927–28	86,626	83,208
1928–29	96,887	76,709
1929–30	89,505	85,442
1930–31	70,663	78,500
1931–32	57,224	63,986

There is no public debt, and at the close of the last financial year the surplus funds of the country amounted to £133,733. These funds are invested in United Kingdom War Bonds, New Zealand, Australian, Straits Settlements, Uganda, Northern Rhodesia, Kenya, and Nigeria stock, and in fixed deposits with the Bank of New Zealand in Sydney and Auckland.

The main heads of taxation are the native tax, Customs dues, and trading licences.

The following table shows the yield of the Customs dues and native tax during the last five years :—

Year.	*Customs.*	*Native Tax.*
	£	£
1927–28	36,582	12,719
1928–29	47,171	11,780
1929–30	41,902	11,919
1930–31	27,026	11,677
1931–32	20,496	9,491

The general tariff on imported goods is 12½ per cent. *ad valorem*.

The principal specific duties are as follows:—

Beer, per gallon	1s. 6d.
Benzine, per gallon	4d.
Cigarettes, per lb.	8s.
Flour, per 150 lb.	2s. 3d.
Kerosene of 150 degrees or over, closed flash test, per gallon	3d.
Spirits of all kinds, the strength of which can be ascertained by Sykes' hydrometer and is proof or overproof, per proof gallon	28s.
Spirits of all kinds, the strength of which can be ascertained by Sykes' hydrometer and is underproof, per liquid gallon	23s.
Sugar, per lb.	½d.
Timber, undressed, per 100 s. ft.	1s. 6d.
Timber, dressed, per 100 s. ft.	2s.
Tobacco, manufactured, per lb.	5s.

The principal articles on the free list are :—

Bags, new, for copra.
Agricultural machinery and implements.

There is an export tax on [illegible] of £1 per ton.

There are no excise duties.

The principal stamp duties on documents are :—

Agreement or memorandum of agreement (whether the same be evidence of a contract or obligatory upon the parties from its being a written document).	
Where the value amounts to £1 but does not exceed £3	2d.
Where the value exceeds £3 but does not exceed £10	1s.
Where the value exceeds £10 then for every additional £10 and also for every fractional part of £10 (but not to exceed ten shillings on any such document)	2s.
Bill of Lading and each copy	1s.
Bill of Exchange—	
(1) Payable on demand or at sight or on presentation	2d.
(2) Payable otherwise than on demand, sight, or presentation, drawn or expressed to be payable in or actually paid or endorsed in any manner negotiated in the Kingdom.	
For any sum not exceeding £50	1s.
For every additional £50 and also for every fractional part of £50	1s.

Promissory Note of any kind.

(Except a Bank Note or Currency Note.)

For any sum not exceeding £5	2d.
Exceeding £5 and not exceeding £25	6d.
For every additional £25 and also for every fractional part of £25	6d

(Exemption—All Bills of Exchange or promissory notes issued by any bank for Government purposes to the Treasurer).

Lease or agreement for a lease or any written document for the tenancy or occupancy of any lands or buildings.

The following duties in respect of the rent at the rate per annum :—

Where the rent does not exceed £25	2s.
Where the rent exceeds £25 and does not exceed £50	5s.
Above £50, for every £50 and also for every fractional part of £50	5s.

Conveyance or transfer.

(1) of any lease	5s.
(2) on sale of any goods whether included in a transfer of a lease or not for every £50 and also for every fractional part of £50 ...	2s.

Mortgage, bond, debenture, or covenant.

(1) Being the only or principal or primary security for the payment or repayment of any money not exceeding £50	2s.
For every additional £50 and also for every fractional part of £50	2s.
(2) Transfer or assignment of any mortgage, bond, debentures, or covenant, and also where any further money is added to the money secured.	(The same rate of duty as (1).)
(3) Being a collateral, or auxiliary, or additional, or substituted security, or by way of further assurance for the above-mentioned purposes :	
Where the principal or primary security is duly stamped	2s.
(4) Reconveyance, release, or discharge of any such security as aforesaid or the benefit thereof, or of the money thereby secured ...	2s.

Receipt.
Given for or upon the payment of money.
Amounting to £2 or upwards but not exceeding £50 ... ... 2d.
Exceeding £50 or upwards but not exceeding £100 ... ... 4d.
Exceeding £100 ... ... 6d.

(Exemptions.
Receipts given for or upon the payment of money to or for the use of the Government of Tonga.
Receipts or discharges given by any person for the payment of wages or salary.
Receipts given for contributions for charitable institutions or religious bodies.)

All male Tongans, when they attain the age of sixteen years, pay a poll tax of 36s. per annum. The yield of the tax during the last five years is set out above. A register of taxpayers is kept by the district tax clerk. This register is revised annually from a list of taxpayers prepared by the District Officer. The tax is paid direct to the district clerk by the taxpayer. Exemption from the tax may be granted on the grounds of old age or sickness.

There is no hut tax.

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Lands and Survey.

The Tongan land system is, in many respects, unique. In historic times the Tongan lived on his farm rather than in village communities; the communal land ownership which is met with in parts of the Pacific is unknown in Tonga. In the 18th century the troubled condition of the land drove the peasant proprietors to take refuge together in fortresses, and out of these fortresses the modern village has grown. The remains of many old trenches exist to-day. Although the necessity for living together for purposes of mutual protection disappeared in the middle of last century, the people did not revert to their old mode of life and the town is now an accepted part of Tongan polity.

The historic system of land tenure was feudal. The great chiefs held of the King and they sub-divided their lands among their followers. Through the chiefs the King received tribute and they in turn exacted feudal dues from the people. In the first Constitution of Tonga, granted by the King over fifty years ago, it was expressly enacted that the Kingdom was the King's. The King, however, confirmed in their ancestral holdings the high chiefs and out of the royal and chiefs' estates holdings were granted to the people. In course of time a grant which was made in return for service in cash or kind became the right of the people and a law was

passed which entitled every Tongan, when he became a taxpayer, to two holdings, a house site in the village, and tax lands in the bush.

It is not possible, within the limits of this Report, to develop further the evolution of the Tongan land system; it is felt, however, that a brief reference to the system of the past is necessary before the present system of tenure is shortly described.

Every Tongan male, when he attains the age of sixteen and thereby becomes a taxpayer, is entitled to a tax allotment of $8\frac{1}{4}$ acres in the bush and a town site not exceeding 132 feet square. He obtains the grant upon application to the Minister of Lands. The Minister makes the allotment from the estate of the chief on which the applicant resides. If land is not available on such estate the allotment is made from the estate of another chief who is willing to provide it. If no allotment is made under this latter provision Crown land is utilized. If the applicant is already resident on Crown land, the allotment is made therefrom in the first place. The rental for the tax allotment is 8s. per annum. It is paid to the Crown or the chief according to where the allotment is made. No rent is charged for the village site.

Provision is made in the law for ejectment for non-payment of rent or for a non-compliance with the planting section of the law. It is mandatory on every holder, as an incident of tenure, within one year of the grant to plant 200 coconut trees on his allotment, properly spaced as provided by law. Provision is made for the survey and registration of grants. Upon the death of a holder his widow is entitled to a life estate in the allotment and devolution is expressly provided for. No Tongan may hold two tax allotments, but he may obtain a lease of an extra area.

Provision was made in 1927 to enable a Tongan to receive, upon application made, in lieu of the grants referred to, an area of $12\frac{3}{8}$ acres of tax land in the bush for which he pays a rental of 4s. If he obtains such allotment, he is not eligible for a town site. It was hoped by reducing the rental and increasing the area to induce the people to live on the land rather than in the village. It was also hoped that Tongans who lived in congested islands would transfer to other islands where the larger areas at the reduced rentals were available. So far only eleven applications have been received for the $12\frac{3}{8}$-acre blocks.

Without the consent of the Executive no chief or allotment holder may grant a lease or make any agreement in respect of his land. The mortgaging of growing crops is illegal.

It is a curious fact that many Tongans do not take advantage of their statutory right to land. There is no compulsion to apply. At the present time, according to records available, allotments are held by 6,327 taxpayers and 503 widows; there are 1,228 taxpayers who have not applied for an allotment. These persons live in towns

or on their fathers' cultivated allotments to which they hope in time to succeed. In other cases there is a disinclination to leave an island which is fully settled. Ample land is available for a full development of the land system and if every taxpayer was an allotment holder approximately one-half of the area of the country would still be available for distribution.

The interest of a Tongan in land, whether he is a chief or a commoner, is a life estate. His ownership is limited in point of disposition; it possesses certain attributes of an estate in fee tail which the holder for life cannot bar. The land system is of interest as being an example of a system grafted by law upon the polity of a people and becoming a leading feature of that polity.

The survey work performed by the Government surveyors consisted in demarcating tax and town allotments. Lease and road surveys were also carried out. The number of European leases in Tonga is 1,602 of a total area of 7,408 acres. The majority of the leases, apart from residences in the towns, consist of store sites and the small trading stations of the large commercial houses.

Visit of the High Commissioner.

His Excellency the High Commissioner visited the Protectorate in September and invested Her Majesty the Queen with the insignia of an Honorary Dame Commander of the Civil Division of the Order of the British Empire. His Excellency remained for three days in Nukualofa and returned to Fiji via Vavau where one day was spent.

APPENDIX 1.

Meteorological Summary for the Year 1932.

Nukualofa Station.

(Lat. 21-7-58.6 S. Long. 175-11-59.1 W.)

Monthly Means.

Month.	*Barometer.*	*Dry Bulb.*	*Wet Bulb.*	*Relative Humidity.*	*Max. Temp.*	*Min. Temp.*	*Rainfall.*	*Wind.*
Jan. ...	29·762	79·8	75·7	82·9	83·8	72·4	10·02	SE'ly
Feb. ...	29·814	81·6	76·5	80·4	84·6	73·5	6·26	ESE
Mar. ...	29·881	79·1	73·9	77·4	83·7	72·7	6·04	ESE
April ...	29·919	78·0	71·9	73·7	81·9	71·0	2·11	ESE
May ...	29·987	77·9	74·7	85·6	82·4	72·7	2·75	E
June ...	29·973	74·7	69·3	75·3	79·9	65·0	6·63	Var. E to W through S.
July ...	29·949	73·5	69·2	81·8	77·9	65·7	6·15	SE'ly
Aug. ...	30·039	71·7	66·8	76·8	75·4	65·6	7·15	Var. E to S.
Sept. ...	30·017	73·9	69·4	78·9	77·4	66·3	3·89	E
Oct. ...	30·045	76·4	70·7	74·8	79·3	68·5	0·41	ESE
Nov. ...	29·944	77·4	72·1	76·7	81·5	70·7	5·67	ESE
Dec. ...	29·802	80·2	75·8	81·2	83·7	71·5	15·06	S'ly
Means ...	29·928	77·0	72·2	78·8	81·0	69·6 / 75·3	72·14	ESE

	Barometer.	*Humidity.*	*Temperature.*
Highest:	30·264 on 4th October.	99 per cent. on 7th February and 6th and 26th July.	88° on 7th February.
Lowest:	29·420 on 19th January.	49·8 per cent. on 3rd October.	54·2° on 9th September.

Number of days on which rain fell: 171.

Most rain in any 24-hour period: 6·90 inches on 19th December.

Cyclonic Storms: Haapai 18th–19th January. Barometer lowest 29·001. Wind maximum 9 to 10 from ENE. Wind veered from NE about to SW. Niuafoou, 12th–13th March. Barometer lowest 28·503. Wind maximum 10–12 from NW. Veered from NW about to NW by W. Vavau, 13th March. Barometer lowest 28·224. Wind maximum 10–12 from ENE and WSW. Centre passed over Noiafu.

APPENDIX 2.

Publications.

Mariner's Account of the Tonga Islands ...	Martin. London. 1817.
Missionary Voyage of the Duff	Wilson. London. 1799.
Account of a voyage in search of La Perouse	Labillardiere. London. 1802.
Diversions of a Prime Minister	Thomson. London. 1894. (Blackwood, 15s.).
Tongan Society	Gifford. Bishop Museum. Honolulu. 1929.
History and Geography of Tonga ...	Wood. 1932. Government Printer, Tonga. Price 3s.
Annual Colonial Reports	H.M. Stationery Office.

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EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS

Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research and other Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926, to March, 1932. Cmd. 4121. 9*d.* (10*d.*).

British Empire Hardwoods from the point of view of Turnery. 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

Wool Quality: A Study of the Influence of various contributory factors, their significance and the technique of their measurement. Cloth. £1 1*s.* (£1 1*s.* 9*d.*).

Australian and New Zealand Fruit Shipments. Report of an investigation into the deterioration in transit of Imported Australian and New Zealand Fruit, 1927–30. (E.M.B. 46.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Banana Breeding at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture. (E.M.B. 47.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Imperial Sugar Cane Research Conference, 1931. Report of Proceedings. 2*s.* 6*d.* (2*s.* 11*d.*).

Further Changes in the Demand for Butter, July, 1928, and July, 1931. Report of an Investigation into the Retail Marketing of Butter in Nottingham. (E.M.B. 48.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

Fruit Supplies in 1931. (E.M.B. 49). 1*s.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

The Demand for Honey. (E.M.B. 50.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Milk Price Margins. A Report on the Differences between Producers' Prices, Wholesale Prices and Retail Prices of Liquid Milk in certain Large Cities in Different Countries. (E.M.B. 51.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Dairy Produce Supplies in 1931. (E.M.B. 52.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

Survey of Vegetable Oilseeds and Oils. Vol. I. Oil Palm Products. (E.M.B. 54.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 4*d.*).

Canned and Dried Fruit Supplies in 1931. (E.M.B. 55.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

The Demand for Canned Vegetables. (E.M.B. 56.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

Wool Survey. A Summary of Production and Trade in the Empire and Foreign Countries. (E.M.B. 57.) 2*s.* (2*s.* 6*d.*).

Cattle Breeding in Jamaica and Trinidad. (E.M.B. 58.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

The Storage of Tropically-grown Tomatoes. (E.M.B. 59.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Control of Wastage in Bananas, with special reference to Time and Temperature Factors. (E.M.B. 60.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 4*d.*).

Survey of Oilseeds and Vegetable Oils. Vol. II. Coconut Palm Products. (E.M.B. 61.) 2*s.* (2*s.* 5*d.*).

Barley Survey. A Study of Barley Production, Exports, Imports, Marketing, Markets and Prices in the Principal Exporting and Importing Countries in the World. (E.M.B. 62.) 2*s.* (2*s.* 5*d.*).

Empire Marketing Board. May, 1932, to May, 1933. (E.M.B. 63.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

Sisal: A note on the Attributes of the Fibre and their Industrial Significance. (E.M.B. 64.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

Fruit Supplies in 1932. (E.M.B. 65.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

Dairy Produce Supplies in 1932. (E.M.B. 66.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

Report on the Infestation of Cured Tobacco in London by the Cacao Moth Ephestia Elutella H.B. (E.M.B. 67.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

Palestine Orange Shipments. (E.M.B. 68.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Canned and Dried Fruit Supplies in 1932. (E.M.B. 69.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 4*d.*).

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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF TONGA FOR THE YEAR 1933

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I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Kingdom of Tonga consists of three main groups of islands called respectively Tongatabu, Ha'apai, and Vavau, together with the outlying islands of Niuafoou, Niuatobutabu, and Tafahi.

The main groups are situated between the 18th and 22nd degrees of South latitude and the 173rd and 176th degrees of West longitude, and extend over an area of approximately 250 square miles.

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The islands consist of two parallel chains running north and south. The western chain is volcanic in formation and the eastern coralline. With the exception of Tofua and Falcon Island the volcanoes are dormant or extinct.

The island of Niuatobutabu was discovered by the Dutch navigators Schouten and Lemaire in 1616. They did not visit the main groups.

In 1643 Tongatabu was discovered by Tasman, and from that year until 1767, when Wallis anchored at Niuatobutabu, there was no contact with the outside world. Captain Cook visited Tongatabu and the Ha'apai group in 1773 and again in 1777, and named the islands the Friendly Islands. In 1789 Captain Bligh visited the Ha'apai group. It was in the waters of this group that the mutiny of the *Bounty* occurred.

Niuafo'ou was discovered by Captain Edwards in H.M.S. *Pandora* in the year 1791.

Contact with the outside world was now established.

Climate.

The climate of the Tongan group from May to November is good for the tropics. The thermometer rarely registers higher than 80 degrees and the humidity during these months is, as a rule, relatively low. During the wet season, from December to April, the temperature rarely rises above 90 degrees, but the humidity, especially when the wind is northerly, is high. This season is trying for Europeans. The meteorological summary for the year is appended to this Report.

History.

The early history of Tonga is enshrouded in myth, and any attempt to reconstruct the past is based on the list of the Tui Tonga, the ancient kings. This list has been compiled by ethnologists and dates back to the 10th century. The extent of the dominions of these ancient kings is not clearly known, but there is evidence that they possessed overlordship over a vast area of Polynesia, whence they received tribute. The kingship was hereditary and the power of the Tui Tonga was absolute. About the 15th century, after the murder of a Tui Tonga, his successor, while retaining his sacred powers, divested himself of much of his executive authority, which he transferred to his brother whom he henceforth called the Tui Haatakalaua. At this time it may be said that there were two kings in Tonga, the spiritual and the temporal. About the middle of the 17th century the temporal king transferred his executive power to a brother, retaining for himself the presentation of offerings from his people. The new chief was called the Tui Kanokupolu, and succession to the title, though not hereditary, was kept within the family. From the date of the creation of the new title the powers of the Tui Tonga and the Tui Haatakalaua gradually passed into

the hands of the Tui Kanokupolu and in the middle of the 19th century, upon the death of the then Tui Tonga, the insignia of the ancient title of the Tui Tonga were conferred upon the Tui Kanokupolu, King George I, the founder of the reigning dynasty. While the evolution of a sacred line of chiefs is not without historic parallel, the double delegation of powers renders difficult the true understanding of the ancient Tongan polity.

Evidence remains in modern Tonga of the power of the ancient kings in the form of the stone monuments which still exist. Chief of these is the Haamonga—a trilithon consisting of two large coral upright stones about 16 feet high, with a connecting stone, 19 feet long, laid horizontally across and mortised into the tops of the upright pieces, the visible parts of which are estimated to weigh between 30 and 40 tons. It was probably erected about the 13th century. Tradition is not consistent as to the reason which impelled the then Tui Tonga to erect this monument, but it is evidentiary of an absolute power. Its state of preservation is excellent. Other evidence of the powers of the ancient kings is to be found in the langis, the royal burial grounds which still exist in Tonga. They consist of quadrilateral mounds, faced by huge blocks of stone, rising sometimes in terraces to a height of 20 feet. The stones are coral, of immense weight, and can only have been placed in position by the concerted labour of a large body of men skilled in the use of rollers and levers. The stones out of which the monuments were constructed were probably quarried from the coral reefs, though there is a strong traditionary evidence that many of them came from distant Polynesian islands.

From the close of the 18th century the history of Tonga can be obtained from the chronicles of Europeans who visited the islands or from European missionary sources. During the first half of the 19th century the islands were the scene of civil wars. These were finally checked during the reign of King George I who had by conquest gathered all power into his own hands. He was finally proclaimed King in 1845. King George I came strongly under missionary influence and, though his rule was absolute, he determined to grant a Constitution, based on the English model, to the Tongans. This Constitution, granted over fifty years ago, has been from time to time amended, yet in essentials the present Constitution differs little from the original. King George died in 1893, at the age of ninety-six, after a memorable reign of nearly fifty years. He was the creator of modern Tonga. He was succeeded by his great-grandson, King George II. The present monarch, Queen Salote Tubou, D.B.E., succeeded to the throne on the death of her father King George Tubou II in 1918.

A Protectorate was proclaimed over Tonga in 1900 and a British Agent appointed.

The language of the group is Tongan, though the laws and Government Gazettes are published in both English and Tongan.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

Under the Constitution of Tonga the Government is divided into three bodies, the Queen, Privy Council, and Cabinet; the Legislative Assembly; and the Judiciary. The chief executive body is the Queen-in-Council, and executive decisions of lesser import are taken in Cabinet over which the Premier presides. The law-making power is vested in the Assembly which consists of the members of the Privy Council, seven nobles elected by their peers, and seven representatives elected by their people. Elections are held triennially. A limited law-making power is vested in the Privy Council; any legislation passed by the Executive is subject to review at the next meeting of the Legislature. At present the technical and financial departments are administered by European members of the Tongan civil service, and Tongan Ministers control the other departments. The northern group of islands, Ha'apai and Vavau, together with the outlying islands, are administered by Tongan Governors who are members of, and responsible to, the Executive. Minor Tongan officials perform statutory duties in connexion with the village life of the people.

No constitutional changes took place during the year.

III.—POPULATION.

The Tongan population at the census taken in April, 1933, was 29,620. The increase in the population during the year ending April, 1933, was 4·36 per cent., compared with 2·46 per cent. for 1932.

The figures for other races are as follows:—

Europeans	409
Half-castes	436
Other Pacific Islanders	185
Others	43

The incidence of the non-Tongan population has not varied appreciably during the last ten years.

The average density of population for all races is 122·77 per square mile.

The following figures show the vital statistics of the Tongan population for the five years ending 31st December last:—

Year.	*Number of Births.*	*Birth-rate.*
1929	1,010	37·25
1930	1,109	39·91
1931	1,145	40·30
1932	1,180	40·47
1933	1,139	37·99

As regards the sexes of the children born the following table shows the proportion for the last five years :—

Year.	*Males.*	*Females.*
1929	1,048·8	1,000
1930	1,084·5	1,000
1931	1,014·1	1,000
1932	1,156·6	1,000
1933	1,228·9	1,000

The illegitimate births amounted to 208. The following table shows the proportion of illegitimate births to every 100 births during the last five years :—

Year.	*Percentage.*
1929	19·52
1930	16·84
1931	17·53
1932	15·42
1933	18·29

The following table shows the number of deaths and the death-rate for the last five years :—

Year.	*Number of Deaths.*	*Death-rate.*
1929	424	15·65
1930	338	12·03
1931	430	15·08
1932	417	14·64
1933	432	14·36

The following table shows the infant mortality rate for the last five years :—

Year.	*In per cent. of deaths.*	*In per mille of births.*
1929	16·98	71·42
1930	19·20	58·80
1931	16·70	62·80
1932	21·10	74·50
1933	20·00	75·60

The following table sets out the total number of marriages performed and the marriage rate for the last five years :—

Year.	*Total Number.*	*Rate per mille of population.*
1929	286	10·55
1930	285	10·30
1931	228	7·52
1932	243	8·02
1933	227	7·58

The Chief Justice of Tonga is the Registrar-General of births, marriages, and deaths of Tongan subjects. Registration in the case of British subjects and foreigners is provided for under the provisions of the Pacific Order in Council, 1893, and Regulations made thereunder, and is effected at the office of the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

IV.—HEALTH.

The Medical Department of the Government of Tonga consists of three medical officers, a dentist, a European nurse and a Tongan staff. Two Tongan nurses are on the staff of Vaiola Hospital, and will shortly be sufficiently trained to transfer to the hospitals at Vavau and Ha'apai. Four Tongan students are studying at the Central Medical School, Suva, Fiji.

The Tongans receive free medical attention. Other patients are charged fees on a scale laid down by the Executive. Fees are paid direct into revenue. The dentist receives a retaining fee from the Government. Tongans receive free treatment in cases of extractions and temporary stoppings. They are also treated freely for pyorrhoea, the incidence of which is heavy.

Provision was made for an expenditure of £8,505 on medical and health services. This sum is equivalent to 13·27 per cent. of the estimated revenue for the year. There are three hospitals in Tonga. The main hospital at Nukualofa, though it does not possess an X-ray plant, is in other respects well equipped to meet the needs of the community. It consists of European and Tongan wards, three maternity wards, in separate buildings, and a dispensary. The other hospitals are in Ha'apai and Vavau. They are suitable for local requirements.

Tonga is purely an agricultural country. There are no estates in the commonly accepted sense of the term. Reference to the system of land tenure is made below. In recording statistical information as to the prevalence of disease it follows that the figures refer only to the home life of the people and the question of disease caused by work in factories or mines does not arise.

Disease.	*Number of cases during year.*
Filariasis	818
Tetanus	5
Leprosy	5
Conjunctivitis	347
Trachoma	116
Yaws	663
Typhoid fever	147
Dysentery	59
Tuberculosis	230
Pneumonia	25

During the year 40 major operations and 1,526 minor operations were performed. General anaesthetics were administered in 28 cases, local in 1,095 cases.

Visits to patients amounted to 6,978 in Nukualofa, 3,915 in Ha'apai and 3,219 in Vavau. The total number of public health visits was 709.

Comparative figures of reported cases of typhoid are as follows :—

Year.	*Number of cases.*
1928	199
1929	86
1930	77
1931	158
1932	165
1933	147

During the year, 1,233 anti-typhoid inoculations were given as compared with 3,776 in the year 1931 and 4,004 in the year 1932.

Comparative figures of reported cases of dysentery are as follows :—

Year.	*Number of cases.*
1929	120
1930	55
1931	24
1932	12
1933	59

Comparative figures of reported cases of tuberculosis are as follows :—

Year.	*Number of cases.*
1929	198
1930	257
1931	308
1932	256
1933	230

Comparative figures of reported cases of yaws are as follows :—

Year.	*Number of cases.*
1928	1,130
1929	643
1930	604
1931	511
1932	575
1933	663

During the year, 2,368 injections for yaws were given as compared with 1,571 in the year 1932 and 1,327 in 1931.

The dentist treated 1,161 patients. Extractions numbered 1,209, fillings 209, and miscellaneous treatments 78. The cases of pyorrhoea treated amounted to 106.

The value of institutional treatment of maternity cases is becoming appreciated by the Tongans. Women are presenting themselves at the hospitals for ante-natal treatment. Special maternity wards are attached to the hospitals in Nukualofa and Ha'apai.

As regards sanitation, the work of erecting cement latrines has been completed and the use of a standard pattern approved by the Board of Health is compulsory. Progress, though slow, is being made in the construction of cement tanks for water conservation and in the repairs of existing village tanks. In the past many large tanks were built in Tonga with no catchment area except their own roofs. The village churches afford excellent catchment but there was a repugnance among the Tongans to use the church roof for this purpose. This antipathy has now disappeared. There are no rivers or streams in Tonga and it is essential, in the interest of the public health, that a complete system of rainwater conservation tanks be installed. As a prevention against typhoid and dysentery the necessity of an unpolluted supply of drinking water is apparent. During periods of drought the people are frequently dependent on well-water for general domestic purposes.

V.—HOUSING.

The Tongan native house is built of reed sides and thatched roof. It is illegal to build a house less than twelve feet in length and proportionately broad. The average size, however, is approximately twenty feet long and twelve feet broad. The native kitchen is merely a shelter built apart from the dwelling house. Ordinary pots are used for cooking purposes, but on special occasions food is always prepared in a native oven. This consists of a pit about three feet deep which is lined with stones. The stones are heated by means of a flue and the food—pork, fish, or fowl, and native root crops—is baked among the stones, which are covered with leaves and earth.

The Tongan in later years has shown a preference for the European style of house and approximately half of the houses are now of wooden construction with corrugated iron roof. These cottages consist of one or more rooms and verandah. While they lack the picturesqueness of the native house they are easier to maintain. The tendency to prefer the European type of house is accentuated by the fact that the supply of wood and thatching materials suitable for house building is limited. Economic depression has, however, checked the substitution of the thatched cottage by the wooden house. There is no housing problem in Tonga and a wage-earning class may be said not to exist, as the people are peasant proprietors. The houses are the property of the people. Legal provision is made for an annual inspection of houses and if any house is found to be in bad repair or badly drained it is lawful for the Tongan District Officer to order the owner to rebuild

or provide proper drainage. Provision is also made for the weeding of the land around the houses and an inspection is made in the towns every two months to ensure that town sites are kept clean.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Tonga is purely an agricultural country. The chief crop is copra and production is almost entirely confined to the Tongans. There are a few European leaseholds but the percentage of copra exported by European planters is negligible. The Tongan is a peasant proprietor and cultivates in person his statutory area of 8¼ acres to which reference is made below. Plantation labour, in the ordinary sense of the term, does not therefore exist. Approximately 20 per cent of the coconut crop is consumed locally. It is used for cooking and drinking purposes, or for feeding pigs and fowls. The average annual value of the copra crop exported during the past five years has been approximately £138,227. Every Tongan taxpayer is an actual or potential copra producer. There are at present 7,815 taxpayers. European influence has not, in the past, speaking generally, had any material influence on the method of copra production by the Tongan. In modern times legislation has been passed to provide for the proper spacing of newly-planted trees, and it is now an incident of the tenure of the 8¼ acre allotment of a Tongan that one-half of the area should be planted with coconut trees in rows, and so arranged that the trees are thirty feet apart. The legislation further provides for the weeding and inspection of allotments. The Tongan cultivator in the past planted his coconut trees closely together and it is difficult to persuade the ordinary farmer that a thinning out of over-planted areas will result in an increased crop. Legislative provision was made in 1926 having for its object the improvement in the quality of copra exported, and it is an offence for a trader to have in his possession bad or damaged copra. Prior to the war there was a considerable trade with New Zealand in bananas and citrus fruits, but the absence of direct communication with the Dominion, which ceased during the War, killed the trade. During the year 1931 satisfactory transport arrangements were made and banana production for export purposes recommenced. The first shipment of fruit was made in December, 1931. In 1932 exports amounted to 47,659 cases valued at £10,452. In 1933 exports amounted to 17,098 cases valued at £3,782. The banana industry received a severe set back in 1933, as a result of the severe gales experienced towards the latter part of February, when practically all the tall varieties of bananas were laid flat and others severely damaged.

In 1932 an arrangement was concluded with His Majesty's Government in New Zealand alloting a quota share of the Dominion banana market to Fiji and Tonga. The combined quota for the two Administrations was fixed at 12,000 cases from May to September and 15,000 cases from October to April. The Tongan share of the

quota was subsequently fixed at 20 per cent of the total Fiji-Tonga quota, and Tonga commenced shipments on this basis in January, 1933. The Tongan does not use the ordinary banana, to any degree, as a food stuff and fruit production over market requirements would be used as feeding stuff for pigs.

The main vegetable food of the Tongan consists of yams, taro, kumalas, and plantains. The approximate area under root crops is 8,000 acres. These crops are grown for local consumption only and it would be impossible to form any accurate estimate of their value.

The soil throughout the group is very fertile and in Tongatabu European vegetables of most summer varieties are easily grown except during the hot months of December to April. They are cultivated chiefly for local consumption by Europeans. The amount produced is limited by the extent of the available market.

Live-stock production is confined, in general, to pigs, cattle, and goats. There is no export of live stock.

There are approximately 18,872 pigs in the group. They are used as a food-stuff by the Tongans and on ceremonial occasions they form an important part of the feast.

Cattle are limited in number and owned chiefly by Europeans. The younger Tongan is showing a tendency to keep cows. This, however, is a modern development due to contact with Europeans.

The Tongan does not as a rule sell his pigs and it would be difficult therefore to form an estimate of their value. The number of goats is negligible.

There is no mineral production in Tonga.

There are no fisheries.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The following table shows the value of the import and export trade during the last five years :—

Year.	*Imports.*	*Exports.*
	£	£
1929	198,078	259,090
1930	148,306	169,610
1931	81,170	90,596
1932	86,006	96,163
1933	86,007	114,447

The export trade during the year was confined to copra and bananas. Copra is exported on optional bills of lading, and is mostly sold on the Continent. The quantity and value of copra exported during the last five years are as follows :—

Year.	*Tons.*	*Value.*
		£
1929	16,860	252,911
1930	14,134	169,609
1931	8,929	80,361
1932	8,323	83,228
1933	11,397	105,028

The imports, apart from drapery, benzine and kerosene, were of Empire origin. The following table shows the countries of origin and value of imports from these countries during the last five years :—

Country of origin.	*1929.*	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*
	£	£	£	£	£
New Zealand	64,426	51,811	33,246	29,743	22,343
Australia	47,327	37,674	22,766	28,759	24,410
United Kingdom	36,494	29,707	9,309	10,495	11,155
Other British Territories...	16,835	11,485	6,223	5,111	7,992
United States of America...	23,482	12,065	7,377	5,224	10,172
Other Foreign Countries ...	9,513	5,564	2,249	6,674	9,929
	198,077	148,306	81,170	86,006	86,001

The quantity of goods of United Kingdom origin is greater than the statistics indicate, as certain imports from New Zealand and Australia are United Kingdom goods re-consigned. The same position applies also to goods of Japanese origin. The principal imports from the United Kingdom are drapery and hardware. During the year there was a considerable importation of cheap Japanese drapery. Goods classified under "Other British Territories" are imports from Fiji and a negligible amount from Canada. Goods classified under "Other Foreign Countries" are imports chiefly of drapery from Japan. Imports from the United States of America consist mostly of benzine and kerosene.

The details and value of the principal imports during the last five years are as follows :—

General Description.	*1929.*	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Bags, gunny	12,315	6,721	2,798	5,959	7,076
Beer	1,748	1,661	1,092	1,098	1,176
Benzine	6,025	2,745	2,436	2,373	3,440
Biscuits	3,793	2,995	1,451	1,011	1,079
Butter	2,244	1,904	1,636	1,273	957
Cigars and cigarettes ...	685	920	325	388	407
Cordage and rope	1,814	1,168	716	830	1,164
Drapery	42,112	29,453	13,345	16,185	15,345
Flour	12,257	11,000	8,252	4,990	5,595
Galvanized ware	5,684	2,650	1,017	1,224	1,293
Hardware	8,845	6,129	3,343	2,636	2,801
Meats, tinned	22,753	21,168	10,508	10,091	9,369
Motor cars and parts ...	5,877	6,095	767	447	1,130
Soap	2,108	2,145	1,454	1,646	1,675
Spirits	1,910	2,017	1,186	867	1,114
Sugar	5,644	4,251	3,349	2,392	2,548
Tobacco	2,017	1,848	1,029	1,291	1,705
Timber	8,278	4,791	1,519	367	2,773

The continued heavy fall in copra export up to 1932 was due to the cumulative effects of hurricanes and drought which, during the three years ending 1932, affected various islands in the group. In addition to these natural causes the disastrous fall in price had

a tendency to discourage production. This year exports increased by 3,070 tons. The position is fully illustrated by the comparative figures set out above.

Local commercial houses continue to live, to a large extent, on existing stocks, and fresh importations were restricted to a minimum. Imports from the United Kingdom, owing to the adverse exchange position and the decreased spending power of the people, show little change as compared with the years 1931 and 1932. These imports consist chiefly of hardware, drapery and galvanized manufactures.

The principal change in the direction of trade during the year was the increase of imports from Japan. These consisted chiefly of cheap drapery. There is a ready market for Manchester prints, suitable for native clothing, and for other wearing apparel reasonably costed. The market for the British light motor-car is limited. Benzine is retailed at 2s. 6d. per gallon and the advantages of the low horse-powered car in the matter of running expenses are obvious. At the end of the year 78 private cars and 42 commercial vehicles were registered in Tonga. Of these only 13 cars and 1 lorry were British. Imports from New Zealand and Australia consist chiefly of flour, tinned meats, beer, and tobacco. Gunny bags, used for sacking copra, are of Indian origin.

The import trade, as the figures illustrate, is chiefly with the United Kingdom and Empire countries. The Tongan is, for practical purposes, dependent on copra for his income, and a return to a normal export will reflect itself in trade figures and increased trade with the Empire.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

It is difficult to draw a comparison between the cost of living in the United Kingdom and Tonga on account of the general difference in conditions. The general tariff on imported goods is 12½ per cent. *ad valorem*; freight charges on imports are high. There is, on the other hand, no income tax. Supplies of fresh meat, milk, eggs, poultry, and ice are obtainable in Nukualofa, the seat of Government.

In outlying islands fresh meat, milk, and ice are not procurable. Excellent vegetables are obtainable in Nukualofa, except during the months of December to April, at reasonable prices. The following table shows the current prices of certain necessary commodities.

Sugar	...	5d. per lb.
Tea	...	2s. 6d. to 4s. per lb.
Butter	...	1s. 6d. local, 1s. 9d. imported.
Flour	...	3d. per lb.
Onions	...	4d. per lb.
Eggs	...	2s. per doz.
Bacon	...	1s. 6d. per lb.

Ham	...	1s. 9d. lb.
Bread	...	6d. per 2 lb. loaf.
Meat	...	9d. to 1s. per lb.
Poultry	...	2s. to 3s. a fowl.
Kerosene	...	10s. per 4 gallon tin.

The household budget of an official will, on the whole, be approximately 25 per cent. higher in Tonga than in the United Kingdom.

The number of labourers employed in Tonga is negligible. The Tongan cultivates his own farm. A few Solomon Islanders, Fijians, and Indians work in the stores or on European plantations. The average wage of a store labourer is £4 to £6 a month without food. These labourers are brought from Fiji and their passages are paid by their employers. The hours of work of a labourer in stores are 9 a day. The Government employs Tongan labour on the roads. The unskilled man receives 3s. to 5s. a day. Labourers on plantations are few in number. They receive similar wages to store labourers.

Domestic servants are expensive. Tongan men do not engage in domestic duties and Tongan girls receive a wage of £2 10s. to £3 *per mensem* and food. Indian cooks from Fiji, when procurable, receive a wage of £6 to £7 *per mensem*, with food, and in addition their fares from and to Fiji are paid by their employers.

The staple food-stuff of the Tongan is root crops grown on his own farm. He uses his pigs as a meat diet. Fish, locally caught, is extensively eaten. It would be difficult to assess with any degree of accuracy his cost of living.

When labourers are rationed by employers the cost is £2 per month. They are given a diet similar to that of the Tongan.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

The early history of education in Tonga is closely associated with the activities of the Christian Missions. The Government, however, decided on the establishment of State schools at an early stage in the development of the country; there are references to such schools in speeches by King George I delivered fifty years ago. In 1882 the first King founded Tonga College. He made a personal gift of the valuable site on which the College was built and also endowed it with a large area of planting land. Since its foundation over 4,100 students have been in residence. The College celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of its foundation during last year.

Some years before Tonga College was founded the King had founded Tubou College. The Wesleyan Mission since 1826 had carried out educational work but the foundation of the College in

1866 marked a definite advance. Girls were admitted to Tubou College in 1870 and it is on record that girls have been captains of the whole school.

In 1888 the Roman Catholic Mission founded Api Foou College for the further training of selected boys from parochial schools.

In the various Tongan Codes of Law which have been published during the last fifty years statutes dealing with education have been included. In 1927 a comprehensive Act was passed. Education is compulsory for all Tongans between the ages of six and fourteen years. The schools, under the Education Act, are divided into three types, primary, middle, and high. The primary schools provide an elementary education in the vernacular. There are 69 Government and 40 denominational primary schools. The average daily attendance throughout the year was 4,966. The Tongan population at the census taken in April, 1933, was 29,720. Of this total 7,815 are taxpayers, i.e., males over the age of sixteen years. The number of males and females in the country is approximately the same. If, therefore, allowance is made for the children who have not reached the school age and those between the ages of 14 and 16 years, it will be seen that practically all Tongans between the ages of six and fourteen attend the primary schools. These schools provide an education in accordance with a Government syllabus and are subject to an inspection. Elementary instruction is given in the three Rs, history of Tonga, geography, hygiene, singing, needlework, and native arts. The buildings of the Government primary schools were, until the year 1930, provided and maintained by the taxpayers of the villages. By an amending law of that year they are charged on general revenue. Education is free. In all primary schools there is co-education.

It has not been possible to establish the middle schools provided for in the Act. At these an elementary education on an English basis will be given. In the primary schools the medium of instruction is Tongan, but in several of these elementary instruction in English is now given.

The Colleges to which reference has been made above provide a general secondary education of a simple nature. They are residential.

The staff at the Government College consists of three European masters, five Tongan masters, and a bandmaster. There are 240 boys in residence. The ordinary academic subjects are taught; the medium of instruction is English. The boys grow their own food, mostly vegetables and root crops, on the College plantation. The College brass band during term gives a weekly recital in the War Memorial Band Rotunda in Nukualofa and plays on official occasions. The band was first formed in the College in 1886 under the conductorship of the grandson of the royal founder of the College.

The Director of Education, who is also Principal of the College, conducts an annual course of instruction at the College for head

teachers from the primary schools during the long vacation. Instruction is practical and theoretical and the results have proved useful.

Tubou College is a Free Wesleyan Church Mission school. It is now divided into two parts, the boys' school at Nafualu and the girls' at Nukualofa. Both are residential. At the end of the year there were 269 boys and 93 girls in residence. The staff at the boys' school consists of two Europeans and three Tongans; at the girls' there is one European and one Tongan teacher. The objective of the school at Nafualu is the training of boys in academic subjects to fit them for general usefulness in the country and especially in the Church, as primary school teachers in Mission schools. In examinations conducted by the Government the record of the school is particularly good. It possesses a Museum housed in an historic Tongan church which was removed from Nukualofa and re-erected in the school grounds. The Museum building is the finest example of Tongan architecture now extant. The collection consists of over 200 exhibits.

At the girls' school the curriculum is similar to that taught in the boys' school, domestic science being substituted for the agricultural training given to the boys.

At Api Foou College, there are 80 students in residence. The staff consists of one European and one Tongan.

Secondary education for girls, apart from Mission, is undeveloped.

No provision is made by the Government for the education of European children. The Missions have schools which the children attend. Instruction of an elementary type only is given.

A scholarship scheme was inaugurated in 1927 under which Tongan students from the secondary schools proceed abroad for higher education. At present two scholars are in residence at Newington College, Australia, and one scholar has entered the Central Medical School, Fiji. The value of the scholarships is £150 per annum at Newington College and £100 per annum at the Medical School.

Expenditure on educational services amounted to £5,909. This sum is equivalent to 9·2 per cent. of the total expenditure for the year.

During the year 1931 an Education Commission was appointed to report, *inter alia*, upon the present administration of the Education Department, with special reference to the supervision and inspection of primary schools, the training of teachers, and the suitability or otherwise of the primary school syllabus. A recommendat on of the Commission that primary school work should, so far as possible, be transferred to the Missions, assisted by grants-in-aid, has been approved in Parliament, but action has not yet been taken.

The Government of Tonga contributes to the funds of the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies.

Games play an important part in Tongan school life. The Tongan is a keen Rugby footballer and cricketer and a particularly good

tennis player. The sports meeting between Tonga College and Tubou College is one of the big events of Tongan social life. At the girls' school basket ball is extensively played.

The Tongan is a keen musician. Brass and string bands exist in most of the principal towns.

The Tongan is keen also on concerts at which European and Tongan items are performed. Considerable ability is displayed in staging simple plays which are frequently included in concert programmes.

On account of the nature of Tongan polity it is unnecessary to make any provision for orphanages or for the maintenance of persons incapacitated by sickness or accident or for the aged. In all these cases care and maintenance devolve upon the relatives who assume responsibility as a matter of course.

During the year 1931 a " European Aid Society " was formed in Nukualofa having for its object the assistance of aged Europeans. The Society is a voluntary one and is kept in funds by small uniform subscriptions from residents. It represents a modest effort on the part of Europeans to render assistance to deserving cases which have arisen in the community.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

There was a monthly communication with Auckland by a vessel of the Union Steamship Company. This vessel after calling at Fiji and Samoa *en route*, visited two ports in Tonga and returned direct to Auckland. A call was made at Niuafoou on the voyage from Fiji to Samoa for mail purposes. This mail until 1930 was carried to and from the ship by swimmers as anchorage at the island is impossible. The old custom of swimming the mail was discontinued as one of the swimmers was taken by a shark. The mail is now, weather conditions permitting, transported by Tongan canoe. This running has now been abandoned and Tonga has at present no definite service.

In addition to the monthly mail steamer, eleven vessels visited the Protectorate during the year for copra cargoes. Of these, five were Swedish, 4 British, one Panamanian, and one American. The total tonnage of overseas vessels entered and cleared amounted to 154,865. Of this total 34,825 was British, 13,969 Swedish, 2,521 American, and 3,384 Panamanian.

Inter-insular communication is maintained by a Japanese auxiliary ketch. It is a small ship fitted with a semi-diesel engine.

Roads.

There are approximately 40 miles of metalled road in Tongatabu and fourteen miles in Vavau suitable for motor traffic. The by-roads are graded earth roads; they are unsuitable for heavy traffic during rains.

There are no railways in the islands.

Telephones and Wireless.

The Tongan Government maintain a wireless station at Nukualofa and sub-stations at Vavau, Ha'apai, Niuafoou, and Niuatobutabu. The sub-stations communicate only with the main station. Nukualofa radio communicates with Samoa and Fiji and thence to all parts of the world. The sub-stations are equipped with locally built continuous wave valve transmitters rated at 20 watts input. The power supplied for the valves is furnished by a battery of Leclanché type primary cells. The sub-stations are operated by Tongans who receive training locally. The new system, considering the limited experience the operators have had, has worked satisfactorily.

The following table shows the traffic handled during the year and the revenue received.

Station.	*Messages.*	*Received.*	*Despatched.*	*Revenue.*
				£
Nukualofa	Government	—	147	42
	Ordinary	1,347	1,258	368
Vavau	Government	40	39	16
	Ordinary	797	803	161
Ha'apai	Government	34	23	13
	Ordinary	454	530	123
Niuafoou	Government	11	15	5
	Ordinary	126	161	33
Niuatobutabu ...	Government	5	16	4
	Ordinary	78	124	23

A summary of traffic handled, including British Government and other free telegrams not shown above, is as follows:—messages, 8,256; words, 66,202; revenue, £788.

The terminal charges of the Nukualofa radio for all Tongan stations is 6d. per word from abroad. The inter-insular charge is 4d.

There is a telephone system in Nukualofa which is administered by the Superintendent of Telegraphs. There are 69 subscribers.

The following statement shows the total revenue and expenditure on wireless and telephone services during the year.

		£
Revenue.	Wireless fees	788
	Telephone fees	241
		£1,029
		£
Expenditure.	Personal emoluments	1,219
	Other charges	135
		£1,354

The wireless operators in the sub-stations perform also the duties of district clerks and are paid from the vote of the department to which they are attached.

Thirty broadcast receiving licenses were issued during the year. Australian, New Zealand or American programmes are heard daily provided atmospheric conditions are not unfavourable. During 1932 the Empire Station at Daventry was heard, but not regularly, on the short wave, and it is interesting to note that the broadcast which was best heard in Tonga during the year was intended for Africa and countries in the Atlantic Zone. Recent experimental transmissions on the 19·8 metre wave have, however, been more consistently heard than any other transmissions.

A request for further short-wave reception tests from English stations has been made by the Postmaster-General, London, but due to recent but temporary disorganization of staff arrangements it has as yet been impossible to undertake this work which entails unbroken 24 hour watches over several days.

Posts.

Postal communication with the outside world is maintained by the monthly vessel of the Union Steamship Company. Foreign mails are also despatched by copra vessels. The Collectors of Customs act as postmasters at the three ports. There are sub-post offices in some of the main villages of Tongatabu. British postal orders are issued at the chief post offices. Money orders are also issued. During the year the total value of stamps sold amounted to £678. Money orders to a value of £1,722 were issued and orders to a value of £524 paid. Postal orders issued and paid amounted in value to £289 and £70 respectively.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

A Government Savings Bank was established in 1926. The following statistics show the operations of the Bank since its institution :—

Year.	*Deposits.*	*Withdrawals.*
	£	£
1926	3,495	558
1927	7,929	3,900
1928	12,341	9,717
1929	11,359	8,528
1930	23,689	14,228
1931	15,930	11,358
1932	19,763	15,546
1933	10,578	15,303

The total amount at the credit of depositors at the end of the year was £25,951.

The number of depositors at the end of the year was :—

Tongans	...	...	...	783
Europeans and others			...	178

Interest at the rate of $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. was allowed on the first £500 deposited and at the rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for an additional amount up to £1,000.

The invested funds of the Bank amount to £25,888.

There is no other bank in Tonga.

There are no Building, Co-operative, or Friendly Societies.

Currency.

British and Australian coin was made the currency of Tonga by a Statute passed by the Tongan Parliament in 1906. Tongan Government notes were issued in 1919 ; at the present time notes to the value of £21,268 are in circulation. The issue is secured by a coin and investment reserve.

Weights and Measures.

British weights and measures are, by Statute, the standard weights and measures of the country.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The Works Department of the Government of Tonga consists of an Engineer, a Foreman, a Travelling Foreman, a Fitter, a Blacksmith, a Roads Foreman, and a Tongan staff. Works beyond the capacity of the local Department are carried out by contractors abroad. The Department possesses plant and rolling stock suitable for local requirements. During the year, for financial reasons, works were reduced to a minimum. The activities of the Department were confined to maintenance work on public buildings and on the roads. No works extraordinary were undertaken.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

There are two jurisdictions in Tonga, the British and the Tongan.

The British Agent holds a commission as a Deputy Commissioner of His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner's Court for the Western Pacific. He is a Judicial Commissioner in Divorce. Under the provisions of the Treaty of 1900, jurisdiction in civil matters is exercised by the British Court over British subjects and foreigners. The British Court has jurisdiction in probate and divorce matters where British subjects and foreigners are parties. In criminal cases British subjects and foreigners charged with an offence against the laws of Tonga, not including crimes punishable by death or by imprisonment exceeding two years, are amenable to the jurisdiction of the Courts of Tonga. The reserve cases are justiciable in the British Court.

The jurisdiction of the British Court is exercised in conformity with the provisions of the Pacific Order in Council of 1893. The principles of British law, so far as circumstances admit, are applied. The judicial work of the British Agent is light. During the year twenty-two civil cases were heard and determined, three grants of letters of administration issued, and no divorce petitions were heard.

The Courts of the Tongan Government have full jurisdiction over Tongans and the limited jurisdiction stated above over British subjects and foreigners. The Tongan judicial system is based on the British model, and trial by jury, in cases where the accused are Tongans, is provided for in the Constitution.

The Justice Department of the Government of Tonga consists of the Chief Justice, the Land Judge, a European Magistrate, and three Tongan Magistrates. The Supreme Court exercises jurisdiction in all civil cases in which the amount claimed exceeds £50 and in all criminal cases where the maximum penalty exceeds a fine of £50 or two years' imprisonment; other cases are heard in the Magistrates' Courts. Where the person charged is a European the case is heard and determined by the European Magistrate if it comes within magisterial jurisdiction; other cases are tried by the Chief Justice sitting with two European assessors.

The Land Court Judge, sitting with a Tongan assessor, hears and determines land claims.

Serious crime among the Tongan people is of infrequent occurrence.

The following table shows the number of indictments which have been tried by the Chief Justice during the last five years:—

Year.	*Number of Indictments.*	*Convictions.*
1929	34	30
1930	34	25
1931	24	12
1932	36	26
1933	22	14

The following table shows the number of criminal cases heard and determined in the Magistrates' Courts during the last five years:—

Year.	*No. of Cases.*	*Convictions.*	*Acquittals.*
1929 ...	4,646	3,270	1,376
1930 ...	4,393	2,887	1,411
1931 ...	2,590	1,839	727
1932 ...	3,361	2,263	868
1933 ...	2,668	1,854	647

Twenty-two cases were committed for trial.

The majority of criminal cases heard in the Magistrates' Courts were for minor municipal and traffic offences.

The following table shows the number of convictions recorded during the last five years for the cases dealt with in the Magistrates' Courts other than municipal and traffic offences :—

Offence.	*1929.*	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*
Theft	96	115	135	126	117
Trespass	30	42	19	4	23
Other offences against property ...	11	17	15	5	18
Assault	64	53	55	61	79
Fighting	18	9	21	12	16
Cruelty to animals	102	137	118	78	87

The various punishments imposed during the year in respect of the convictions in the Magistrates' Courts were as follows :—

Fines	1,724
Imprisonment for non-payment of fines ...	697
Peremptory imprisonment	94
Whipping or whipping and imprisonment ...	34

There is a considerable amount of civil litigation among the Tongans. During the year eight civil cases came before the Supreme Court and 2,264 actions were heard in the Magistrates' Courts.

There is an appeal from a Magistrate's decision to the Chief Justice in all civil cases and in every criminal case except when the defendant pleads guilty.

During the year the Chief Justice heard thirty-six appeals, twenty-eight criminal and eight civil. In the criminal appeals the sentences and fines imposed by the Magistrates were affirmed in eight cases, two were reduced, convictions in six cases quashed, five cases were varied, a new trial was ordered in three cases, and four appeals allowed. In the civil appeals the decisions of the Magistrates were upheld in five cases, one case varied, a new trial was ordered in one case, and one appeal allowed.

The Supreme Court heard ten cases in divorce. Decrees absolute were granted in all cases, with the exception of one case which was being adjourned, and which was still open at the end of the year.

The Supreme Court in its probate jurisdiction granted Letters of Administration in ninety-seven cases. The following table shows the number of Grants of Probate or Letters of Administration which issued out of the Court during the last five years.

Year.	*Number.*
1929	112
1930	78
1931	105
1932	87
1933	97

The total value of estates in 1933 was £9,183.

There are twenty-four Tongan lawyers practising in the Courts. Licences to practice are issued by the Chief Justice. There is no

educational qualification imposed, but the Chief Justice has a discretionary power to refuse to issue a licence to undesirable persons.

Police.

The Police Department is in charge of a Tongan Minister who is also the Public Prosecutor. The Department has a strength of one European Inspector, three Tongan Inspectors, and forty non-commissioned officers and men. The Tongan police, when called upon to do so, assist His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner's Court in making arrests and enforcing judgments.

The total expenditure of the force for all services was £4,291. The cost of the police per head of population was 2s. 9d.

The number of persons prosecuted by the police for offences of all kinds during the last five years is as follows :—

Year.	*Number.*
1929	3,605
1930	3,487
1931	2,496
1932	3,345
1933	2,531

The great majority of these prosecutions were for offences of a trivial nature.

All traffic is controlled by the force, which carries out the registration of motor vehicles and the examination of drivers.

In addition to ordinary police duties the force is responsible for the inspection of villages and road frontages and the taking of the annual census.

Prisons.

The Minister of Police is in charge of the prisons. There is a main gaol at Nukualofa with sub-gaols at Ha'apai, Vavau, and the two Niuas. There is also a sub-gaol on the Government Agricultural Station at Vaikeli where prisoners grow food-stuffs for the Prison and Police Departments. Juvenile offenders are confined in the latter sub-gaol apart from adult prisoners. Crime among juveniles is very rare. All prisoners undergoing a sentence of over six months imprisonment are confined in the Nukualofa gaol. The number of prisoners in custody on 1st January and 31st December in the Nukualofa gaol was 32 and 29 respectively.

The main gaol at Nukualofa consists of two main wooden buildings, a women's gaol, and a hospital. There is no provision for the confinement of prisoners in separate cells.

The sub-gaols consist of small wooden buildings suitable for local requirements.

Prisoners are visited regularly by the Medical Officer. The health of prisoners throughout the year was satisfactory.

Prisoners may earn remission of sentence by industry accompanied by good conduct. The maximum remission for prisoners undergoing a first term of imprisonment is one quarter of the sentence.

Orders for payments of fines made in the Magistrates' Courts are not enforced for fourteen days after the making of the order. If the law under which the order is made does not provide for imprisonment in default of payment a warrant of distress is then issued. In default of distress a warrant of commitment issues ordering a defendant to be imprisoned in respect of the sum still remaining unsatisfied by the distress for any term not exceeding the term specified in respect of a like sum in the scale of imprisonment provided in the Magistrates Act.

Provision is made in Tongan law for the probation of offenders. When any person is convicted of an offence, and the Court is of opinion, having regard to the character, age, health or mental condition of the person charged, or to the trivial nature of the offence, or to the extenuating circumstances under which it was committed, that it is inexpedient to inflict any other than a nominal punishment, or that it is expedient to release the offender on probation, the Court may, in lieu of imposing a sentence of imprisonment, make an order discharging the offender conditionally on his entering into a recognizance, with or without securities, to be of good behaviour and to appear for sentence when called upon at any time during such period not exceeding three years as may be specified in the order. When a probation order is made the Court is required to furnish the offender with a notice in writing stating in simple terms the conditions he is required to observe.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The following Acts were passed at the 1933 session of the Tongan Parliament :—

1. The 1933–34 Appropriation Act.
2. The 1931–32 Supplementary Appropriation Act.
3. The Salaries (Levy) Act, 1933.
4. The Cinematograph Amendment Act, 1933.
5. The Shipping and Navigation Act (Helm Orders), 1933.
6. The Silver Coin (Importation) Act, 1933.
7. The Constitution (Amendment) Act, 1933.
8. The Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Act, 1933.
9. The Supreme Court (Amendment) Act, 1933.
10. The Motor Traffic (Amendment) Act, 1933.
11. The Town Regulation (Amendment) Act, 1933.
12. The Post Office Act, 1933.
13. The Marriage and Registration (Amendment) Act, 1933.
14. The Drugs and Poison (Amendment) Act, 1933.
15. The Order in Public Places (Amendment) Act, 1933.
16. The Land (Amendment) Act, 1933.
17. The Customs (Admission of Samples) Act, 1933.
18. The Customs Duties Act, 1933.

Act No. 3.—A budgetary measure providing for a levy on salaries during the financial year 1933–34. The levy is as follows :—

On the first £300	... ...	2½ per cent.
On the next £200	... ...	5 per cent.
On the remainder	... ...	7½ per cent.

Act No. 4.—An enabling Act to permit the Executive to make regulations for the adequate censorship of films and the control of the display of posters.

Act No. 6.—This Act regulates the import of silver.

Act No. 10.—This Act provides for the payment of a fee of five shillings for a learner's licence.

Act. No. 11.—The principal Act did not permit the use of coconut leaves for the construction of the walls of native houses. The provision was honoured in the breach and the amendment legalizes a common practice.

Act No. 13.—This Act provides more effective machinery for the administration of the principal Act and brings the law more in conformity with the usual principles of similar Registration Acts.

Act No. 18.—This Act provides for a preferential tariff on goods the production or manufacture of the Empire.

The following Ordinance was passed during the year :—

1. The Shipping and Navigation (Helm Order) Ordinance, 1933.

In Tongan law the Queen-in-Council is empowered to pass Ordinances between the meetings of the Legislature. Ordinances so passed are placed before Parliament at its next subsequent meeting and, if agreed to, are passed as Acts.

The following regulations were passed :—

1. Immigration Restriction Regulation.
2. Postal Regulations.
3. Savings Bank Regulation.

The Immigration Restriction Regulation, provides for a temporary permit for any person who desires to enter the Kingdom.

The Savings Bank Regulation was passed to reduce the interest payable on fixed deposits. As from the 1st of January, 1934, the rate was reduced from 3½ per cent. to 2¾ per cent. on deposits up to £500 and to 2½ per cent. on deposits in excess of £500 up to the maximum deposit of £1,000.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The Tongan financial year ends on 30th June. The revenue and expenditure totals for each of the last five years are as follows :—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1928–29	96,887	76,709
1929–30	89,505	85,442
1930–31	70,663	78,500
1931–32	57,224	63,986
1932–33	64,072	60,347

There is no public debt, and at the close of the last financial year the surplus funds of the country amounted to £137,458. These funds are invested in United Kingdom War Bonds, New Zealand, Australia, Straits Settlements, Uganda, Northern Rhodesia, Kenya and Nigeria Stock, and in fixed deposits with the Bank of New Zealand in Sydney and Auckland.

The main heads of taxation are the native tax, Customs dues, and trading licences.

The following table shows the yield of the Customs dues and native tax during the last five years :—

Year.	*Customs.*	*Native tax.*
	£	£
1928–29	47,171	11,780
1929–30	41,902	11,919
1930–31	27,026	11,677
1931–32	20,496	9,491
1932–33	22,459	11,673

The general tariff on imported goods is 12½ per cent. *ad valorem.*

The principal specific duties are as follows :—

The British Preferential Tariff which came into force on 16th August, 1933, retained the 12½ per cent. as the preferential rate ; the General Tariff is 20 per cent. *ad valorem.*

Article.	*General Tariff.*	*British Preferential Tariff.*
	s. d.	s. d.
Beer, per gallon	2 0	1 6
Benzine, per gallon	4	4
Cigarettes, per lb.	10 0	8 0
Flour, per 150 lb.	4 3	2 6
Kerosene of 150 degrees or over closed flash test, per gallon	3	3
Spirits of all kinds, the strength of which can be ascertained by Sykes' hydrometer and is proof per gallon ...	29 0	23 0
Spirits of all kinds, the strength of which can be ascertained by Sykes' hydrometer and is overproof per gallon	34 0	28 0
Sugar, per lb.	1	½
Timber, undressed, per 100 sq. ft. ...	2 0	1 6
Timber, dressed, per 100 sq. ft.	2 6	2 0
Tobacco manufactured, per lb. ...	7 0	5 0

The principal articles on the free list are :—

Bags, new, for copra.

Agricultural machinery and implements.

There is an export tax on copra of £1 per ton.

There are no excise duties.

	s.	d.
The principal stamp duties on documents are :—		
Agreement or memorandum of agreement (whether the same be evidence of a contract or obligatory upon the parties from its being a written document)—		
Where the value amounts to £1 but does not exceed £3		2
Where the value exceeds £3 but does not exceed £10	1	0
Where the value exceeds £10 then for every additional £10 and also for every fractional part of £10 (but not to exceed 10s. on any such document)	2	0
Bill of lading and each copy	1	0
Bill of exchange—		
(1) Payable on demand or at sight or on presentation		2
(2) Payable otherwise than on demand, sight, or presentation, drawn or expressed to be payable in or actually paid or endorsed in any manner negotiated in the Kingdom—		
For any sum not exceeding £50	1	0
For every additional £50 and also for every fractional part of £50	1	0
Promissory note of any kind (except a Bank note or Currency note)—		
For any sum not exceeding £5		2
Exceeding £5 but not exceeding £25		6
For every additional £25 and also for every fractional part of £25		6
(Exemptions—All bills of exchange or promissory notes issued by any Bank for Government purposes to the Treasurer.)		
Lease or agreement for a lease or any written document for the tenancy or occupancy of any land or buildings—		
The following duties in respect of the rent at the rate per annum—		
Where the rent does not exceed £25	2	0
Where the rent exceeds £25 and does not exceed £50	5	0
Above £50, for every £50, and also for every fractional part of £50	5	0

	s.	d.
Conveyance or transfer—		
(1) Of any lease	5	0
(2) On sale of any goods whether included in a transfer of a lease or not for every £50 and also for every fractional part of £50 ...	2	0
Mortgage, bond, debenture, or covenant—		
(1) Being the only or principal or primary security for the payment or repayment of any money not exceeding £50	2	0
For every additional £50 and also for every fractional part of £50	2	0
(2) Transfer or assignment of any mortgage, bond, debenture, or covenant, and also where any further money is added to the money secured	(The same rate of duty as (1).).	
(3) Being a collateral, or auxiliary, or additional, or substituted security, or by way of further assurance for the above-mentioned purposes :		
Where the principal or primary security is duly stamped	2	0
(4) Re-conveyance, release, or discharge of any such security as aforesaid or the benefit thereof, or of the money thereby secured ...	2	0
Receipt—		
Given for or upon the payment of money—		
Amounting to £2 or upwards but not exceeding £50		2
Exceeding £50 or upwards but not exceeding £100		4
Exceeding £100		6
(Exemptions—Receipts given for or upon the payment of money to or for the use of the Government of Tonga ; receipts or discharges given by any person for the payment of wages or salary ; receipts given for contributions for charitable institutions or religious bodies.)		

All male Tongans, when they attain the age of sixteen years, pay a poll tax of 36s. per annum. The yield of the tax during the last five years is set out above. A register of taxpayers is kept by the district tax clerk. This register is revised annually from a list of taxpayers prepared by the District Officer. The tax is paid direct to the district clerk by the taxpayer. Exemption from the tax may be granted on the grounds of old age or sickness.

There is no hut tax.

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Lands and Survey.

The Togan land system is, in many respects, unique.

In historic times the Togan lived on his farm rather than in village communities; the communal land ownership which is met with in parts of the Pacific is unknown in Tonga. In the 18th century the troubled condition of the land drove the peasant proprietors to take refuge together in fortresses, and out of these fortresses the modern village has grown. The remains of many old trenches exist to-day. Although the necessity for living together for purposes of mutual protection disappeared in the middle of last century, the people did not revert to their old mode of life and the town is now an accepted part of Tongan polity.

The historic system of land tenure was feudal. The great chiefs held of the King and they sub-divided their lands among their followers. Through the chiefs the King received tribute and they in turn exacted feudal dues from the people. In the first Constitution of Tonga, granted by the King over fifty years ago, it was expressly enacted that the Kingdom was the King's. The King, however, confirmed in their ancestral holdings the high chiefs and out of the royal and chiefs' estates holdings were granted to the people. In course of time a grant which was made in return for service in cash or kind became the right of the people and a law was passed which entitled every Tongan, when he became a taxpayer, to two holdings, a house site in the village, and tax lands in the bush.

It is not possible, within the limits of this report, to develop further the evolution of the Tongan land system; it is felt, however, that a brief reference to the system of the past is necessary before the present system of tenure is shortly described.

Every Tongan male, when he attains the age of sixteen and thereby becomes a taxpayer, is entitled to a tax allotment of $8\frac{1}{4}$ acres in the bush and a town site not exceeding 132 feet square. He obtains the grant upon application to the Minister of Lands. The Minister makes the allotment from the estate of the chief on which the applicant resides. If land is not available on such estate the allotment is made from the estate of another chief who is willing to provide it. If no allotment is made under this latter provision Crown land is utilized. If the applicant is already resident on Crown land, the allotment is made therefrom in the first place.

The rental for the tax allotment is 8s. per annum. It is paid to the Crown or the chief according to where the allotment is made. No rent is charged for the village site.

Provision is made in the law for ejectment for non-payment of rent or for non-compliance with the planting section of the law. It is mandatory on every holder, as an incident of tenure, within one year of the grant to plant 200 coconut trees on his allotment,

properly spaced as provided by law. Provision is made for the survey and registration of grants. Upon the death of a holder his widow is entitled to a life estate in the allotment and devolution is expressly provided for. No Tongan may hold two tax allotments, but he may obtain a lease of an extra area.

Provision was made in 1927 to enable a Tongan to receive, upon application being made, in lieu of the grants referred to, an area of $12\frac{3}{8}$ acres of tax land in the bush for which he pays a rental of 4s. If he obtains such allotment, he is not eligible for a town site. It was hoped by reducing the rental and increasing the area to induce the people to live on the land rather than in the village. It was also hoped that Tongans who lived in congested islands would transfer to other islands where the larger areas at the reduced rentals were available. So far only eleven applications have been received for the $12\frac{3}{8}$ acre blocks.

Without the consent of the Executive no chief or allotment holder may grant a lease or make any agreement in respect of his land. The mortgaging of growing crops is illegal.

It is a curious fact that many Tongans do not take advantage of their Statutory right to land. There is no compulsion to apply At the present time, according to records available, allotments are held by 5,631 taxpayers and 613 widows ; there are 1,566 taxpayers who have not applied for an allotment. These persons live in towns or on their fathers' cultivated allotments to which they hope in time to succeed.

In other cases there is a disinclination to leave an island which is fully settled. Ample land is available for a full development of the land system and if every taxpayer was an allotment holder approximately one-half of the area of the country would still be available for distribution.

The interest of a Tongan in land, whether he is a chief or a commoner, is a life estate. His ownership is limited in point of disposition ; it possesses certain attributes of an estate in fee tail which the holder for life cannot bar. The land system is of interest as being an example of a system grafted by law upon the polity of a people and becoming a leading feature of that polity.

The survey work performed by the Government surveyors consisted in demarcating tax and town allotments. Lease and road surveys were also carried out. The number of European leases in Tonga is 1,634 of a total area of 7,422 acres. The majority of the leases, apart from residences in the towns, consist of store sites and the small trading stations of the large commercial houses.

APPENDIX A.

Meteorological Summary for the Year 1933.

Nukualofa Station. (Lat. 21-7-58·6 S. Long. 175-11-59·1 W.)

Monthly Means.

Month.	*Barometer.*	*Dry Bulb.*	*Wet Bulb.*	*Relative Humidity.*	*Max. Temp.*	*Min. Temp.*	*Rainfall (totals).*	*Wind.*
				%	°F.	°F.	*inches.*	
Jan. ...	29·796	80·9	78·1	88·0	84·7	72·5	5·52	ESE
Feb. ...	29·798	81·6	78·8	88·1	84·9	75·0	13·74	ExN
Mar. ...	29·868	81·5	78·1	85·9	84·8	74·8	5·64	E
April ...	29·932	79·3	75·9	85.4	83·3	73·2	7·21	E'ly
May ...	29·985	76·3	71.9	80·3	80·2	70·0	5·79	ESE
June ...	30·000	73·4	68.6	77.4	78·4	64·8	5·31	E & SSW
July ...	30·034	70·7	65.0	72·4	76·1	61·6	1·67	SSE
Aug. ...	30·083	71·7	66·1	73·3	75·9	63·6	3·44	ESE
Sept. ...	30·053	73·9	68·0	72·8	77·8	65·5	1·20	E
Oct. ...	30·017	74·4	69.3	76·7	78·0	66·9	2·06	SE
Nov. ...	29·917	78·8	73·4	76·6	81·7	70·5	3·71	E
Dec. ...	29·901	79.3	73·6	75·6	82·9	72·2	1·15	ESE
					80·7	69·2	*Year total.*	
Means ...	29.949	76·8	72·2	79·4	75·0°F.		56·46	E'ly

	Barometer.	*Humidity.*	*Temperature.*
Highest:	30·248 on 27th June.	100 per cent. on 28th March.	88·7° F. on 14th February.
Lowest:	29·19 on 26th February.	48·9 per cent. on 30th September.	52° F. on 2nd August.

Number of days on which rain fell: 171.

Most rain in any 24-hour period: 6·51 inches on 26th February.

Cyclonic Storms: 25th–26th February. Lowest barometer 29·19. Wind E. by S. to E. by W., maximum velocity 55 m.p.h. 28th–29th March. Lowest barometer 29·447. Wind ENE to NNW, maximum velocity 55 m.p.h.

Barometric depressions recorded: 2nd–5th January, 7–13th January, 19–20th February, 15th–18th June, 9th–12th August, 15th–17th August, 29th–31st August, 20th–21st October, 13th–14th November, 17th–28th November, 8th–10th December and 28th–31st December.

APPENDIX B.

Publications.

*Mariner's Account of the Tonga Islands. J. Martin.	Murray. London.	1817.
*Missionary Voyage of the *Duff*, commanded by Capt. James Wilson.	Chapman. London.	1799.
Account of a voyage in search of La Perouse. J. J. de Labillardiere.	London.	1802.
*Diversions of a Prime Minister. Sir B. H. Thomson.	Blackwood. London.	1894. (15s.)
Tongan Society. E. W. Gifford	Bishop Museum. Honolulu.	1929.
*History and Geography of Tonga. A. H. Wood.	Government Printer. Tonga.	1932. (3s.)
*Annual Colonial Report	H.M. Stationery Office. London.	(1s.)

* Copies of these books may be seen in the Library of the Colonial Office.

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Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

MIGRATION.

Report to the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Migration Policy. [Cmd. 4689.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*)

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Minutes of Evidence. [Colonial No. 68.] 5*s.* (5*s.* 9*d.*).

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1930.

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Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3718.] 4*s.* (4*s.* 4*d.*).

Report of the Conference on Standardisation. (Including Resolutions adopted by the Imperial Conference). [Cmd. 3716.] 3*d.* (3½*d.*).

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Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3628.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3629.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).

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Report by the Financial Commissioner (Lord Moyne) on Certain Questions in Kenya. May, 1932. [Cmd. 4093.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

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Railway Rates and Finance. Report by Mr. Roger Gibb, September, 1932. [Cmd. 4235.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 7*d.*).

TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission. [Cmd. 4182.] 2*s.* 6*d.* (2*s.* 8*d.*).

East African Agricultural Research Station, Amani. Sixth Annual Report, 1933-34. [Colonial No. 100.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

Financial and Economic Position. Report of Commission, March, 1933. [Cmd. 4368.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 9*d.*).

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Financial and Economic Situation. Report of Commission. [Cmd. 4114.] 2*s.* 6*d.* (2*s.* 9*d.*).

MALAYA.

Report of Brigadier-General Sir S. H. Wilson, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.B.E., on his visit during 1932. [Cmd. 4276.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

SEYCHELLES.

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Financial Situation. Report of Commission, December, 1931. [Cmd. 4034.] 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 10*d.*).

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Report of the Closer Union Commission. (Leeward Islands, Windward Islands, Trinidad and Tobago.) [Cmd. 4383.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

Report of a Commission appointed to consider problems of Secondary and Primary Education in Trinidad, Barbados, Leeward Islands, and Windward Islands. [Colonial No. 79.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

BRITISH HONDURAS.

Financial and Economic Position. Report of Commissioner, March, 1934. [Cmd. 4586.] 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 10*d.*).

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Financial Situation. Report of Commission, June, 1931. [Cmd. 3938.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

THE LEEWARD ISLANDS AND ST. LUCIA.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission, October, 1931. [Cmd. 3996.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

PALESTINE.

Report on Immigration, Land Settlement and Development, by Sir John Hope Simpson, C.I.E., 1930. [Cmd. 3686.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).

Appendix to Report, containing Maps. [Cmd. 3687.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 3*d.*).

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[*Continued on page 3 of cover*

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF TONGA FOR THE YEAR 1934

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I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Kingdom of Tonga consists of three main groups of islands called respectively Tongatabu, Ha'apai, and Vavau, together with the outlying islands of Niuafoou, Niuatobutabu, and Tafahi.

The main groups are situated between the 18th and 22nd degrees of South latitude and the 173rd and 176th degrees of West longitude, and extend over an area of approximately 250 square miles.

The islands consist of two parallel chains running north and south. The western chain is volcanic in formation and the eastern coralline. With the exception of Tofua and Falcon Island the volcanoes are dormant or extinct.

The island of Niuatobutabu was discovered by the Dutch navigators Schouten and Lemaire in 1616. They did not visit the main groups.

In 1643 Tongatabu was discovered by Tasman, and from that year until 1767, when Wallis anchored in Niuatobutabu, there was no contact with the outside world. Captain Cook visited Tongatabu and the Ha'apai group in 1773 and again in 1777, and named the islands the Friendly Islands. In 1789 Captain Bligh visited the Ha'apai group. It was in the waters of this group that the mutiny of the *Bounty* occurred.

Niuafoou was discovered by Captain Edwards in H.M.S. *Pandora* in the year 1791.

Contact with the outside world was now established.

Climate.

The climate of the Tongan group from May to November is good for the tropics. The thermometer rarely registers higher than 80 degrees and the humidity during these months is, as a rule, relatively low. During the wet season, from December to April, the temperature rarely rises above 90 degrees, but the humidity, especially when the wind is northerly, is high. This season is trying for Europeans. The meteorological summary for the year is appended to this Report.

History.

The early history of Tonga is enshrouded in myth, and any attempt to reconstruct the past is based on the list of the Tui Tonga, the ancient kings. This list has been compiled by ethnologists and dates back to the 10th century. The extent of the dominions of these ancient kings is not clearly known, but there is evidence that they possessed overlordship over a vast area of Polynesia, whence they received tribute. The kingship was hereditary and the power of the Tui Tonga was absolute. About the 15th century, after the murder of a Tui Tonga, his successor, while retaining his sacred powers, divested himself of much of his executive authority, which he transferred to his brother whom he henceforth called the Tui Haatakalaua. At this time it may be said that there were two kings in Tonga, the spiritual and the temporal. About the middle of the 17th century the temporal king transferred his executive power to a brother, retaining for himself the presentation of offerings from his people. The new chief was called the Tui Kanokupolu, and succession to the title, though not hereditary, was kept within the family. From the date of the creation of the new title the powers of the Tui Tonga and the Tui Haatakalaua gradually passed into

the hands of the Tui Kanokupolu and in the middle of the 19th century, upon the death of the then Tui Tonga, the insignia of the ancient title of the Tui Tonga were conferred upon the Tui Kanokupolu, King George I, the founder of the reigning dynasty. While the evolution of a sacred line of chiefs is not without historic parallel, the double delegation of powers renders difficult the true understanding of the ancient Tongan polity.

Evidence remains in modern Tonga of the power of the ancient kings in the form of the stone monuments which still exist. Chief of these is the Haamoga—a trilithon consisting of two large upright coral stones about 16 feet high, with a connecting stone, 19 feet long, laid horizontally across and mortised into the tops of the upright pieces, the visible parts of which are estimated to weigh between 30 and 40 tons. It was probably erected about the 13th century. Tradition is not consistent as to the reason which impelled the then Tui Tonga to erect this monument, but it is evidentiary of an absolute power. Its state of preservation is excellent. Other evidence of the powers of the ancient kings is to be found in the langis, the royal burial grounds which still exist in Tonga. They consist of quadrilateral mounds, faced by huge blocks of stone, rising sometimes in terraces to a height of 20 feet. The stones are coral, of immense weight, and can only have been placed in position by the concerted labour of a large body of men skilled in the use of rollers and levers. The stones out of which the monuments were constructed were probably quarried from the coral reefs, though there is a strong traditionary evidence that many of them came from distant Polynesian islands.

From the close of the 18th century the history of Tonga can be obtained from the chronicles of Europeans who visited the islands or from European missionary sources. During the first half of the 19th century the islands were the scene of civil wars. These were finally checked during the reign of King George I who had by conquest gathered all power into his own hands. He was finally proclaimed King in 1845. King George I came strongly under missionary influence and, though his rule was absolute, he determined to grant a Constitution, based on the English model, to the Tongans. This Constitution, granted over fifty years ago, has been from time to time amended, yet in essentials the present Constitution differs little from the original. King George died in 1893, at the age of ninety-six, after a memorable reign of nearly fifty years. He was the creator of modern Tonga. He was succeeded by his great-grandson, King George II. The present monarch, Queen Salote Tubou, D.B.E., succeeded to the throne on the death of her father King George Tubou II in 1918.

A Protectorate was proclaimed over Tonga in 1900 and a British Agent appointed.

The language of the group is Tongan, though the laws and Government Gazettes are published in both English and Tongan.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

Under the Constitution of Tonga the Government is divided into three bodies, the Queen, Privy Council, and Cabinet; the Legislative Assembly; and the Judiciary. The chief executive body is the Queen-in-Council, and executive decisions of lesser import are taken in Cabinet over which the Premier presides. The law-making power is vested in the Assembly which consists of the members of the Privy Council, seven nobles elected by their peers, and seven representatives elected by the people. Elections are held triennially. A limited law-making power is vested in the Privy Council; any legislation passed by the Executive is subject to review at the next meeting of the Legislature. At present the technical and financial departments are administered by European members of the Tongan civil service, and Tongan Ministers control the other departments. The northern group of islands, Ha'apai and Vavau, together with the outlying islands, are administered by Tongan Governors who are members of, and responsible to, the Executive. Minor Tongan officials perform statutory duties in connexion with the village life of the people.

No constitutional changes took place during the year.

III.—POPULATION.

The Tongan population at the census taken in April, 1934, was 30,482. The increase in the population during the year ending April, 1934, was 2·91 per cent., compared with 4·36 per cent. for 1933.

The figures for other races are as follows:—

Europeans	378
Half-castes	475
Other Pacific Islanders	206
Others	48

The incidence of the non-Tongan population has not varied appreciably during the last ten years.

The average density of population for all races is 126·35 per square mile.

The following figures show the vital statistics of the Tongan population for the five years ending 31st December last:—

Year.	*Number of Births.*	*Birth-rate.*
1930	1,109	39·91
1931	1,145	40·30
1932	1,180	40·47
1933	1,139	37·99
1934	1,191	38·88

As regards the sexes of the children born the following table shows the proportion for the last five years :—

Year.	*Males.*	*Females.*
1930	1,084·5	1,000
1931	1,014·1	1,000
1932	1,156·6	1,000
1933	1,228·9	1,000
1934	1,000·0	1,013·5

The illegitimate births amounted to 214. The following table shows the proportion of illegitimate births to every 100 births during the last five years :—

Year.	*Percentage.*
1930	16·84
1931	17·53
1932	15·42
1933	18·29
1934	17·96

The following table shows the number of deaths and the death-rate for the last five years :—

Year.	*Number of Deaths.*	*Death-rate.*
1930	338	12·03
1931	430	15·08
1932	417	14·64
1933	432	14·36
1934	430	14·03

The following table shows the infant mortality rate for the last five years :—

Year.	*In per cent. of deaths.*	*In per mille of births.*
1930	19·20	58·80
1931	16·70	62·80
1932	21·10	74·50
1933	20·00	75·60
1934	19·70	71·30

The following table sets out the total number of marriages performed and the marriage rate for the last five years :—

Year.	*Total Number.*	*Rate per mille of population.*
1930	285	10·30
1931	228	7·52
1932	243	8·02
1933	227	7·58
1934	188	6·13

The Chief Justice of Tonga is the Registrar-General of births, marriages, and deaths of Tongan subjects. Registration in the case of British subjects and foreigners is provided for under the provisions of the Pacific Order in Council, 1893, and Regulations made thereunder, and is effected at the office of the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

IV.—HEALTH.

The Medical Department of the Government of Tonga consists of three medical officers, a dentist, a European nurse, three Tongan medical practitioners and a Tongan subordinate staff. Three Tongan nurses are on the staff at Nukualofa Hospital. Four Tongan students are studying at the Central Medical School, Suva, Fiji.

The Tongans receive free medical attention. Other patients are charged fees on a scale laid down by the Executive. Fees are paid direct into revenue. The dentist receives a retaining fee from the Government. Tongans receive free treatment in cases of extractions and temporary stoppings. They are also treated freely for pyorrhoea, the incidence of which is heavy.

Provision was made for an expenditure of £7,550 on medical and health services. This sum is equivalent to 14·60 per cent. of the estimated revenue for the year. There are three hospitals in Tonga. The main hospital at Nukualofa, though it does not possess an X-ray plant, is in other respects well equipped to meet the needs of the community. It consists of European and Tongan wards, three maternity wards, in separate buildings, and a dispensary. The other hospitals are in Ha'apai and Vavau. They are suitable for local requirements.

Tonga is purely an agricultural country. There are no estates in the commonly accepted sense of the term. Reference to the system of land tenure is made below. In recording statistical information as to the prevalence of disease it follows that the figures refer only to the home life of the people and the question of disease caused by work in factories or mines does not arise.

Disease.	*Number of cases during the year.*
Filariasis	1,250
Tetanus	12
Leprosy	11
Conjunctivitis	376
Trachoma	61
Typhoid fever	142
Yaws	594
Dysentery	56
Tuberculosis	106
Pneumonia	41

Comparative figures of reported cases of typhoid are as follows :—

Year.	*Number of cases.*
1930	77
1931	158
1932	165
1933	147
1934	142

The disease is endemic. During the year a total of 1,899 prophylactic inoculations were given.

Comparative figures of reported cases of dysentery are as follows :—

Year.	*Number of cases.*
1930	55
1931	24
1932	12
1933	59
1934	56

Most of the cases notified during the year were bacillary in character.

Comparative figures of reported cases of tuberculosis are as follows :—

Year.	*Number of cases.*
1930	257
1931	308
1932	256
1933	230
1934	106

It is considered by the Chief Medical Officer that, although notifications decreased, the disease is not on the decrease and that in the past many cases were notified on insufficient clinical grounds.

Comparative figures of reported cases of yaws are as follows :—

Year.	*Number of cases.*
1930	604
1931	511
1932	575
1933	663
1934	594

During the year a trial of intramuscular injections of Bismuth Sodium Tartrate was made and the results were found equally as good as those produced by N.A.B.

The advantage lies in the ease of administration and the cost, a dose of N.A.B. averaging 1s. and that of B.S.T. one-sixth of a penny.

A total of 499 B.S.T. and 1,559 N.A.B. injections were given.

The principal causes of death, when a member of the Medical Department was in attendance, were :—

	Per cent.		*Per cent.*
Tuberculosis ...	17·5	Septic conditions ...	3·6
Cardiac disease ...	10·9	Gastro-intestinal ...	2·9
Typhoid fever ...	10·9	Tetanus	2·9
Filariasis	10·2	Nervous diseases ...	2·9
Senility	9·5	Influenza	2·0
Cancer	8·0	Parturition	2·0
Pneumonia... ...	7·3	Traumatic	2·0

The following is a summary of the work performed during the year by the medical staff at the three hospitals :—

	Nukualofa.	*Vavau.*	*Ha'apai.*
Admissions ...	112	101	14
Major operations ...	43	43	—
Minor operations ...	1,892	321	170
Outpatients :—			
Attendances ...	64,481	16,772	9,195
Visits	8,809	2,462	2,691
Anaesthetics ...	1,286	265	68
Confinements ...	93	29	70
Sanitary inspections	333	111	900

During the year there was no European Medical Officer resident in Ha'apai.

The following is a summary of the work performed during the year by the Dental Department.

Number of patients	1,853
Extractions	1,437
Fillings	399
Pyorrhœa	115

The Government Dentist visited the Northern islands of the Group during the year.

The value of institutional treatment of maternity cases is becoming appreciated by the Tongans. The ante-natal clinic at Nukualofa Hospital was well attended and mothers are encouraged to come to hospital for their confinements, as far as the limitation of space permits. An infant welfare clinic has also been established and free supplies of food for infants, when necessary, are provided.

As regards sanitation, the work of erecting cement latrines has been completed and the use of a standard pattern approved by the Board of Health is compulsory. Progress, though slow, is being made in the construction of cement tanks for water conservation and in the repairs of existing village tanks. In the past many large tanks were built in Tonga with no catchment area except their own roofs. The village churches afford excellent catchment but

there was a repugnance among the Tongans to use the church roof for this purpose. This antipathy has now disappeared. There are no rivers or streams in Tonga and it is essential, in the interest of the public health, that a complete system of rain-water conservation tanks be installed. As a prevention against typhoid and dysentery the necessity of an unpolluted supply of drinking water is apparent. During periods of drought the people are frequently dependent on well-water for general domestic purposes.

V.—HOUSING.

The Tongan native house is built of reed sides and thatched roof. It is illegal to build a house less than twelve feet in length and proportionately broad. The average size, however, is approximately twenty feet long and twelve feet broad. The native kitchen is merely a shelter built apart from the dwelling house. Ordinary pots are used for cooking purposes, but on special occasions food is always prepared in a native oven. This consists of a pit about three feet deep which is lined with stones. The stones are heated by means of a flue and the food—pork, fish, or fowl, and native root crops—is baked among the stones, which are covered with leaves and earth.

The Tongan in later years has shown a preference for the European style of house and, according to the census figures of 1934 approximately one-third of the houses are now of wooden construction with corrugated iron roof. These cottages consist of one or more rooms and verandah. While they lack the picturesqueness of the native house they are easier to maintain. The tendency to prefer the European type of house is accentuated by the fact that the supply of wood and thatching materials suitable for house building is limited. Economic depression has, however, checked the substitution of the thatched cottage by the wooden house and the houses built in recent years are mostly of native construction. There is no housing problem in Tonga and a wage-earning class may be said not to exist, as the people are peasant proprietors. The houses are the property of the people. Legal provision is made for an annual inspection of houses and if any house is found to be in bad repair or badly drained it is lawful for the Tongan District Officer to order the owner to rebuild or provide proper drainage. Provision is also made for the weeding of the land around the houses and an inspection is made in the towns every two months to ensure that town sites are kept clean.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Tonga is purely an agricultural country. The chief crop is copra and production is almost entirely confined to the Tongans. There are a few European leaseholds but the percentage of copra exported by European planters is negligible. The Tongan is a peasant proprietor and cultivates in person his statutory area of $8\frac{1}{4}$ acres

to which reference is made below. Plantation labour, in the ordinary sense of the term, does not therefore exist. Approximately 20 per cent of the coconut crop is consumed locally. It is used for cooking and drinking purposes, or for feeding pigs and fowls. The average annual value of the copra crop exported during the past five years has been approximately £99,693. Every Tongan taxpayer is an actual or potential copra producer. There are at present 7,887 taxpayers. European influence has not, in the past, speaking generally, had any material influence on the method of copra production by the Tongan. In modern times legislation has been passed to provide for the proper spacing of newly-planted trees, and it is now an incident of the tenure of the 8¼ acre allotment of a Tongan that one-half of the area should be planted with coconut trees in rows, and so arranged that the trees are thirty feet apart. The legislation further provides for the weeding and inspection of allotments. The Tongan cultivator in the past planted his coconut trees closely together and it is difficult to persuade the ordinary farmer that a thinning out of over-planted areas will result in an increased crop. Legislative provision was made in 1926 having for its object the improvement in the quality of copra exported, and it is an offence for a trader to have in his possession bad or damaged copra.

Prior to the War there was a considerable trade with New Zealand in bananas and citrus fruits, but the absence of direct communication with the Dominion, which ceased during the War, killed the trade. During the year 1931 satisfactory transport arrangements were made and banana production for export purposes recommenced. The first shipment of fruit was made in December, 1931. In 1932 exports amounted to 47,659 cases valued at £10,452. In 1933 exports amounted to 17,098 cases valued at £3,782. The banana industry received a severe set-back in 1933, as a result of the severe gales experienced towards the latter part of February, when practically all the tall varieties of bananas were laid flat and others severely damaged. In 1932 an arrangement was concluded with His Majesty's Government in New Zealand allotting a quota share of the Dominion banana market to Fiji and Tonga. The combined quota for the two Administrations was fixed at 12,000 cases from May to September and 15,000 cases from October to April. The Tongan share of the quota was subsequently fixed at 20 per cent of the total Fiji-Tonga quota, and Tonga commenced shipments on this basis in January, 1933. In 1934, owing to lack of shipping, it was only possible to send nine shipments, amounting to 26,402 cases, valued at £6,907, to the Dominion. . The Tongan does not use the ordinary banana, to any degree, as a foodstuff and fruit production over market requirements would be used as feeding stuff for pigs.

In addition to bananas small shipments of pineapples, tomatoes, and kumaras (sweet potatoes), of an approximate value of £800, were shipped to New Zealand.

The main vegetable food of the Tongan consists of yams, taro, kumaras, and plantains. The approximate area under root crops is 8,000 acres. These crops are grown for local consumption only and it would be impossible to form any accurate estimate of their value.

The soil throughout the group is very fertile and in Tongatabu European vegetables of most summer varieties are easily grown except during the hot months of December to April. They are cultivated chiefly for local consumption by Europeans. The amount produced is limited by the extent of the available market.

Livestock production is confined, in general, to pigs, cattle, and goats. There is no export of livestock.

There are approximately 20,289 pigs in the group. They are used as a foodstuff by the Tongans and on ceremonial occasions they form an important part of the feast.

Cattle are limited in number and owned chiefly by Europeans. The younger Tongan is showing a tendency to keep cows. This, however, is a modern development due to contact with Europeans.

The Tongan does not as a rule sell his pigs and it would be difficult therefore to form an estimate of their value. The number of goats, according to the census figure for the year, is 3,621.

There is no mineral production in Tonga.

There are no fisheries.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The following table shows the value of the import and export trade during the last five years :—

Year.	*Imports.*	*Exports.*
	£	£
1930	148,306	169,610
1931	81,170	90,596
1932	86,006	96,163
1933	86,007	114,447
1934	48,526	77,842

The export trade during the year was confined almost entirely to copra and bananas. Copra is exported on optional bills of lading, and is mostly sold on the Continent. The quantity and value of copra exported during the last five years are as follows :—

Year.	*Tons.*	*Value.*
		£
1930	14,134	169,609
1931	8,929	80,361
1932	8,323	83,228
1933	11,397	105,028
1934	10,154	59,941

The principal imports, apart from drapery, benzine and kerosene, were of Empire origin. The following table shows the countries of

origin and value of imports from these countries during the last five years :—

Country of origin.	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
New Zealand	51,811	33,246	29,743	22,343	10,826	(15,720)
Australia	37,674	22,766	28,759	24,410	10,325	(14,451)
United Kingdom ...	29,707	9,303	10,495	11,155	8,295	(4,897)
India	—	—	—	1,144	5,208	(138)
Fiji	9,274	5,896	5,026	6,734	3,765	(6,528)
Other British Territories	2,210	327	84	118	1,008	(128)
United States of America	12,065	7,377	5,224	10,172	3,090	(2,297)
Japan	4,070	1,829	6,475	9,528	4,187	(3,636)
Other Foreign Countries	1,493	420	199	395	1,822	(731)

Before 1934 imports were classified by the Customs Department of the Government of Tonga according to the country of origin. The term was used loosely; the classification was more strictly a classification according to the country from which the goods were consigned. In 1934 goods have been classified both in accordance with country of origin and country of consignment. The statistics given show in brackets for the year 1934 classification according to the method employed before 1934. The value of goods imported from Fiji does not represent accurately the trade with the Colony. Sugar, a primary product of Fiji, is refined in New Zealand before importation to Tonga and the trade with New Zealand is consequently greater than Customs figures indicate.

The details and value of the principal imports during the last five years are as follows :—

General Description.	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Bags, gunny	6,721	2,798	5,959	7,076	5,164
Beer	1,661	1,092	1,098	1,176	857
Benzine	2,745	2,436	2,373	3,440	1,086
Biscuits	2,995	1,451	1,011	1,079	569
Butter	1,904	1,636	1,273	957	634
Cigars and cigarettes ...	920	325	388	407	272
Cordage and rope	1,168	716	830	1,164	466
Drapery	29,453	13,345	16,185	15,345	5,356
Flour	11,000	8,252	4,990	5,595	2,534
Galvanized ware	2,650	1,017	1,224	1,293	494
Hardware	6,129	3,343	2,636	2,801	1,169
Meats, tinned	21,168	10,508	10,091	9,369	4,650
Motor cars and parts ...	6,095	767	447	1,130	724
Soap	2,145	1,454	1,646	1,675	1,416
Spirits	2,017	1,186	867	1,141	1,206
Sugar	4,251	3,349	2,392	2,548	1,742
Tobacco	1,848	1,029	1,292	1,705	1,073
Timber	4,791	1,519	367	2,773	305

The heavy fall in the value of imports is accounted for by the slump in the copra market with its consequent reaction on the purchasing power of the people. In addition, the importation of cheap foreign goods seriously effects the value of imports. The position is fully illustrated by the comparative figures set out above.

Local commercial houses continue to live, to a large extent, on existing stocks, and fresh importations were reduced to a minimum.

Imports from the United Kingdom declined owing to the adverse exchange position (Tonga currency is on the Australian basis), and the importation of cheap foreign draperies. Imports from the United Kindom consist chiefly of hardware and soft goods. Imports of drapery decreased owing to the cheapness of Japanese prints and silks.

During the year drapery imports from the United Kingdom were value at £1,353 as against £3,013 from Japan.

The market for the British light car is limited. Benzine is retailed at 2s. per gallon and the advantages of the low horse-powered car in the matter of running expenses are obvious. At the end of the year 80 private cars and 39 commercial vehicles were registered. Of these only 10 cars and 1 lorry were British.

Imports from New Zealand and Australia consist chiefly of flour, tinned meats, beer, and tobacco. Gunny bags, used for copra, are of Indian origin.

The import trade, as the figures illustrate, is chiefly with the United Kingdom and Empire countries. The Tongan is, for practical purposes, dependent on copra for his income, and a return to a normal export will reflect itself in the trade figures and increased trade with the Empire.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

It is difficult to draw a comparison between the cost of living in the United Kingdom and Tonga on account of the general difference in conditions. The general tariff on imported goods is 20 per cent. *ad valorem* and the preferential tariff 12½ per cent.; freight charges on imports are high. There is, on the other hand, no income tax. Supplies of fresh meat, milk, eggs, poultry, and ice are obtainable in Nukualofa, the seat of Government.

In the outlying islands fresh meat, milk, and ice are not procurable. Excellent vegetables are obtainable in Nukualofa, except during the months of December to April, at reasonable prices. The following table shows the current prices of certain necessary commodities.

Sugar	...	...	5d. per lb.
Tea	...	...	2s. 6d. to 4s. per lb.
Butter	...	...	1s. 6d. local, 1s. 9d. imported.
Flour	...	...	3d. per lb.
Onions	...	...	4d. per lb.
Eggs	...	...	2s. per doz.
Bacon	...	...	1s. 6d. per lb.

Ham	...	...	1s. 9d. lb.
Bread	...	...	6d. per 2 lb. loaf.
Meat	...	...	9d. to 1s. per lb.
Poultry	...	...	2s. to 3s. a fowl.
Kerosene		...	10s. per 4 gallon tin.

The household budget of an official will, on the whole, be approximately 25 to 30 per cent. higher in Tonga than in the United Kingdom.

The number of labourers employed in Tonga is negligible. The Tongan cultivates his own farm. A few Solomon Islanders, Fijians, and Indians work in the stores or on European plantations. The average wage of a store labourer is £4 to £6 a month without food. These labourers were in the past brought from Fiji and their passages paid by their employers. The hours of work of a labourer in stores are nine a day. The Government employs Tongan labour on the roads. The unskilled man receives 3s. a day. Labourers on the plantations are few in number. They receive wages similar to those of store labourers.

Domestic servants are expensive. Tongan men do not engage in domestic duties and Tongan girls receive a wage of £2 10s. to £3 *per mensem* and food. Indian cooks from Fiji, when procurable, receive a wage of £5 to £6 *per mensem*, with food, and in addition their fares from and to Fiji are paid by their employers.

The staple foodstuff of the Tongan is root crops grown on his own farm. He uses his pigs as a meat diet. Fish, locally caught, is extensively eaten. It would be difficult to assess with any degree of accuracy his cost of living.

When labourers are rationed by employers the cost is approximately £2 per month. They are given a diet similar to that of the Tongan.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

The early history of education in Tonga is closely associated with the activities of the Christian Missions. The Government, however, decided on the establishment of State schools at an early stage in the development of the country; there are references to such schools in speeches by King George I delivered fifty years ago. In 1882 the first King founded Tonga College. He made a personal gift of the valuable site on which the College was built and also endowed it with a large area of planting land. Since its foundation over 4,200 students have been in residence.

Some years before Tonga College was founded the King had founded Tubou College. The Wesleyan Mission since 1826 had carried out educational work but the foundation of the College in

1866 marked a definite advance. Girls were admitted to Tubou College in 1870 and it is on record that girls have been captains of the whole school.

In 1888 the Roman Catholic Mission founded Api Foou College for the further training of selected boys from parochial schools.

In the various Tongan Codes of Law which have been published during the last fifty years statutes dealing with education have been included. In 1927 a comprehensive Act was passed. Education is compulsory for all Tongans between the ages of six and fourteen years. The schools, under the Education Act, are divided into three types, primary, middle, and high. The primary schools provide an elementary education in the vernacular. There are 70 Government and 39 denominational primary schools. The average daily attendance throughout the year was 5,379. The Tongan population at the census taken in April, 1934, was 30,482. Of this total 7,877 are taxpayers, i.e., males over the age of sixteen years. The number of males and females in the country is approximately the same. If, therefore, allowance is made for the children who have not reached the school age and those between the ages of 14 and 16 years, it will be seen that practically all Tongans between the ages of six and fourteen attended the primary schools. These schools provide an education in accordance with a Government syllabus and are subject to an inspection. Elementary instruction is given in the three Rs, history of Tonga, geography, hygiene, singing, needlework, and native arts. The buildings of the Government primary schools were, until the year 1930, provided and maintained by the taxpayers of the villages. By an amending law of that year they are charged on general revenue. Education is free. In all primary schools there is co-education.

It has not been possible to establish the middle schools provided for in the Act. At these an elementary education on an English basis will be given. In the primary schools the medium of instruction is Tongan, but in several of these elementary instruction in English is now given.

The Colleges to which reference has been made above provide a general secondary education of a simple nature. They are residential.

The staff at the Government College consists of three European masters, five Tongan masters, and a bandmaster. There are 245 boys in residence. The ordinary academic subjects are taught; the medium of instruction is English. The boys grow their own food, mostly vegetables and root crops, on the College plantation. The College brass band during term gives a weekly recital in the War Memorial Band Rotunda in Nukualofa and plays on official occasions. The band was first formed in the College in 1886 under the conductorship of the grandson of the royal founder of the College.

The Director of Education, who is also Principal of the College, conducts an annual course of instruction at the College for the head

teachers from the primary schools during the long vacation. Instruction is practical and theoretical and the results have proved useful. For financial reasons the course was not held during the year.

Tubou College is a Free Wesleyan Mission school. It is now divided into two parts, the boys' school at Nafualu and the girls' school at Nukualofa. Both are residential. At the end of the year there were 293 boys and 96 girls in residence. The staff at the boys' school consists of one European and five Tongans; at the girls' school there is one European and one Tongan teacher. The objective of the school at Nafualu is the training of boys in academic subjects to fit them for general usefulness in the country and especially in the Church, as primary school teachers in Mission schools. In examinations conducted by the Government the record of the school is particularly good. It possesses a museum housed in an historic Tongan church which was removed from Nukualofa and re-erected in the school grounds. The museum building is the finest example of Tongan architecture now extant. The collection consists of over 200 exhibits.

At the girls' school the curriculum is similar to that taught in the boys' school, domestic science being substituted for the agricultural training given to the boys.

At Api Foou College, there are 120 students in residence. The staff consists of one European and one Tongan.

Secondary education for girls, apart from Mission, is undeveloped.

No provision is made by the Government for the education of European children. The Missions have schools which the children attend. Instruction of an elementary type only is given.

A scholarship scheme was inaugurated in 1927 under which Tongan students from the secondary schools proceed abroad for higher education. At present two scholars are in residence at Newington College, Australia, and one scholar has entered the Central Medical School, Fiji. The value of the scholarships is £150 per annum at Newington College and £100 per annum at the Medical School.

Expenditure on educational services amounted to £5,693. This sum is equivalent to 9·2 per cent. of the total expenditure for the year.

During the year 1931 an Education Commission was appointed to report, *inter alia*, upon the present administration of the Education Department, with special reference to the supervision and inspection of primary schools, the training of teachers, and the suitability or otherwise of the primary school syllabus. A recommendation of the Commission that primary school work should, so far as possible, be transferred to the Missions, assisted by grants-in-aid, has been approved in Parliament, but action has not yet been taken.

The Government of Tonga contributes to the funds of the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies.

Games play an important part in Tongan school life. The Tongan is a keen Rugby footballer and cricketer and a particularly good tennis player. The sports meeting between Tonga College and Tubou College is one of the big events of Tongan social life. At the girls' school basket ball is extensively played.

The Tongan is a keen musician. Brass and string bands exist in most of the principal towns.

The Tongan is keen also on concerts at which European and Tongan items are performed. Considerable ability is displayed in staging simple plays which are frequently included in concert programmes.

On account of the nature of Tongan polity it is unnecessary to make any provision for orphanages or for the maintenance of persons incapacitated by sickness or accident or for the aged. In all cases care and maintenance devolve upon the relatives who assume responsibility as a matter of course.

During the year 1931 a " European Aid Society " was formed in Nukualofa having for its object the assistance of aged Europeans. The Society is a voluntary one and is kept in funds by small uniform subscriptions from residents. It represents a modest effort on the part of Europeans to render assistance to deserving cases which have arisen in the community.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

The regular monthly communication with Auckland by a vessel of the Union Steamship Company was not in operation during the year and communication with the outside world was irregular. Vessels of the Company *en route* for Pacific ports to New Zealand called at intervals and a vessel in the New Zealand-Fiji cargo trade made occasional calls. In addition seven vessels visited the Protectorate during the year for copra cargoes. Of these, three were British, two Swedish, one American, and one Panamanian. The Matson Company's trans-Pacific passenger liner called regularly at the outlying island of Niuafoou and landed a passengers' mail to be stamped with Tongan stamps.

Three tourist vessels visited Nukualofa during the year.

The total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared at the two ports of entry amounted to 167,693. Of this total 59,934 was British, 11,632 Swedish, 16,413 American, and 2,342 Panamanian.

Inter-insular communication is maintained by a Japanese auxiliary ketch. It is a small ship fitted with a semi-Diesel engine.

Roads.

There are approximately 42 miles of metalled road in Tongatabu and 14 miles in Vavau suitable for motor traffic. The by-roads are graded earth roads; they are unsuitable for heavy traffic during rains.

There are no railways in the islands.

Telephones and Wireless.

The Tongan Government maintains a wireless station at Nukualofa and sub-stations at Vavau, Ha'apai, Niuafoou, and Niuatobutabu. The sub-stations communicate only with the main station. Nukualofa radio communicates with Samoa and Fiji and thence to all parts of the world. The sub-stations are equipped with locally-built continuous wave valve transmitters rated at 20 watts input. The power supplied for the valves is furnished by a battery of Leclanché type primary cells. The sub-stations are operated by Tongans who receive training locally. The new system has worked satisfactorily.

The following table shows the traffic handled during the year and the revenue received.

Station.	*Messages.*	*Received.*	*Despatched.*	*Revenue.*
				£
Nukualofa	Government	—	158	63
	Ordinary	1,256	1,094	372
Vavau	Government	61	49	31
	Ordinary	636	722	150
Ha'apai	Government	28	21	12
	Ordinary	347	345	62
Niuafoou	Government	12	16	7
	Ordinary	103	141	28
Niuatobutabu ...	Government	16	25	14
	Ordinary	64	115	21

A summary of the traffic handled, including British Government and other free telegrams not shown above, is as follows:—messages, 7,323; words, 81,514; revenue, £760.

The terminal charges of the Nukualofa radio for all Tongan stations is 6d. per word from abroad. The inter-insular charge is 4d.

There is a telephone system in Nukualofa which is administered by the Superintendent of Telegraphs. There are 71 subscribers.

The following statement shows the total revenue and expenditure on wireless and telephone services during the year.

		£
Revenue.	Wireless fees	760
	Telephone fees	210
		£970
		£
Expenditure.	Personal emoluments	1,092
	Other charges	369
		£1,461

The wireless operators in the sub-stations perform also the duties of district clerks and are paid from the vote of the department to which they are attached.

Thirty-six broadcast receiving licenses were issued during the year. Australian, New Zealand or American programmes are heard daily provided atmospheric conditions are not unfavourable. During the year the Empire Station at Daventry was heard on the short wave. Reception, though not always satisfactory, was considerably better than in previous years.

Watches of short wave transmissions by Oxford, in accordance with schedules prepared in the General Post Office, London, were kept by Nukualofa radio during the Tongan summer months.

These watches are now being held weekly in order that a report on reception may be prepared.

Posts.

Foreign mails were despatched throughout the year by Union Steamship Company and copra vessels.

Collectors of Customs at Nukualofa and Vavau act as postmasters at these ports. There are sub-post offices in some of the main villages of Tongatabu. British postal orders are issued at the chief post offices. Money orders are also issued. During the year the total value of stamps sold amounted to £993. Money orders to a value of £6,828 were issued and orders to a value of £282 paid. Postal orders issued and paid amounted in value to £278 and £5 respectively.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

A Government Savings Bank was established in 1926. The following statistics show the operations of the Bank since its institution :—

Year.	*Deposits.*	*Withdrawals.*
	£	£
1926	3,495	558
1927	7,929	3,900
1928	12,341	9,717
1929	11,359	8,528
1930	23,689	14,228
1931	15,930	11,358
1932	19,763	15,546
1933	10,578	15,303
1934	17,649	18,797

The total amount at the credit of depositors at the end of the year was £24,803.

The number of depositors at the end of the year was:—

Tongans	1,020
Europeans and others	179

Interest at the rate of $2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. was allowed on the first £500 deposited and at the rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for an additional amount up to £1,000.

The invested funds of the Bank amount to £24,388.

There is no other bank in Tonga.

There are no Building, Co-operative, or Friendly Societies.

Currency.

British and Australian coin was made the currency of Tonga by a Statute passed by the Tongan Parliament in 1906. Tongan Government notes were issued in 1919; at the present time notes to the value of £21,268 are in circulation. The issue is secured by an investment reserve.

Weights and Measures.

British weights and measures are, by Statute, the standard weights and measures of the country.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The Works Department of the Government of Tonga has been reduced, for financial reasons, to a skeleton staff and now consists of an Engineer assisted by a Tongan staff. Works beyond the capacity of the Department are carried out by contractors from abroad or by arrangement with the Public Works Department of Fiji. At the end of 1933 the Fiji Department seconded an officer as Resident Engineer for wharf re-construction work. The Nukualofa and Vavau wharfs, both concrete structures, were re-built at a cost of £6,671 and £5,076 respectively, and a new Customs Shed was erected on Nukualofa wharf.

The activities of the local Department were confined to maintenance work on public buildings and on the roads.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

There are two jurisdictions in Tonga, the British and the Tongan. The British Agent holds a commission as a Deputy Commissioner of His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner's Court for the Western Pacific. He is a Judicial Commissioner in Divorce. Under the provisions of the treaty of 1900, jurisdiction in civil matters is exercised by the British Court over British subjects and foreigners. The British Court has jurisdiction in probate and divorce matters where British subjects and foreigners are parties. In criminal cases British subjects and foreigners charged with an offence against the

laws of Tonga, not including crimes punishable by death or by imprisonment exceeding two years, are amenable to the jurisdiction of the Courts of Tonga. The reserved cases are justiciable in the British Court.

The jurisdiction of the British Court is exercised in conformity with the provisions of the Pacific Order in Council of 1893. The principles of British law, so far as circumstances admit, are applied. The judicial work of the British Agent is light. During the year fifteen civil cases were heard and determined and two grants of letters of administration issued.

The Courts of the Tongan Government have full jurisdiction over Tongans and the limited jurisdiction stated above over British subjects and foreigners. The Tongan judicial system is based on the British model, and trial by jury, in cases where the accused are Tongans, is provided for in the Constitution.

The Justice Department of the Government of Tonga consists of the Chief Justice, who acts also as Land Judge, a European Magistrate, and three Tongan Magistrates. The Supreme Court exercises jurisdiction in all civil cases in which the amount claimed exceeds £50 and in all criminal cases where the maximum penalty exceeds a fine of £50 or two years' imprisonment; other cases are heard in the Magistrates' Courts. Where the person charged is a European the case is heard and determined by the European Magistrate if it comes within magisterial jurisdiction; other cases are tried by the Chief Justice sitting with two European assessors.

The Land Court Judge, sitting with a Tongan assessor, hears and determines land claims.

Serious crime among the Tongan people is of infrequent occurrence.

The following table shows the number of indictments which have been tried by the Chief Justice during the last five years :—

Year.	*Number of Indictments.*	*Convictions.*
1930	34	25
1931	24	12
1932	36	26
1933	22	14
1934	33	27

The following table shows the number of criminal cases heard and determined in the Magistrates' Courts during the last five years :—

Year.	*No. of Cases.*	*Convictions.*	*Acquittals.*
1930 ...	4,393	2,887	1,411
1931 ...	2,590	1,839	727
1932 ...	3,361	2,263	868
1933 ...	2,668	1,854	647
1934 ...	3,334	2,274	821

Thirty-five cases were committed for trial.

The majority of criminal cases heard in the Magistrates' Courts were for minor municipal and traffic offences.

The following table shows the number of convictions recorded during the last five years for the cases dealt with in the Magistrates' Courts other than municipal and traffic offences :—

Offence.	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*
Theft	115	135	126	117	137
Trespass	42	19	4	23	44
Other offences against property ...	17	15	5	18	2
Assault	53	55	61	79	104
Fighting	9	21	12	16	31
Cruelty to animals	137	118	78	87	64

The various punishments imposed during the year in respect of the convictions in the Magistrates' Courts were as follows :—

Fines	2,125
Imprisonment for non-payment of fines ...	1,087
Peremptory imprisonment	112
Whipping or whipping and imprisonment ...	37

There is a considerable amount of civil litigation among the Tongans. During the year two civil cases came before the Supreme Court and 1,994 actions were heard in the Magistrates' Courts.

There is an appeal from a Magistrate's decision to the Chief Justice in all civil cases and in every criminal case except when the defendant pleads guilty.

During the year the Chief Justice heard twenty-five appeals, eighteen criminal and seven civil. In the criminal appeals the sentences and fines imposed by the Magistrates were affirmed in twelve cases, one was remitted for rehearing, two were reduced and three appeals were allowed. In the civil appeals the decisions of the Magistrates were upheld in four cases, and a new trial was ordered in three cases.

The Supreme Court heard two cases in divorce. Decrees absolute were granted in both cases

The Supreme Court in its probate jurisdiction granted letters of administration in seventy-two cases. The following table shows the number of grants of probate or letters of administration which issued out of the Court during the last five years.

Year.	*Number.*
1930	78
1931	105
1932	87
1933	97
1934	72

The total value of estates in 1934 was £6,872.

There are twenty-three Tongan lawyers practising in the Courts. Licences to practise are issued by the Chief Justice. There is no

educational qualification imposed, but the Chief Justice has a discretionary power to refuse to issue a licence to undesirable persons.

Police.

The Police Department is in charge of a Tongan Minister who is also the Public Prosecutor. The Department has a strength of one European Inspector, three Tongan Inspectors, and thirty-eight non-commissioned officers and men. The Tongan police, when called upon to do so, assist His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner's Court in making arrests and enforcing judgments.

The total expenditure of the force for all services was £4,150. The cost of the police per head of population was 2s. 7d.

The number of persons prosecuted by the police for offences of all kinds during the last five years is as follows :—

Year.	*Number.*
1930	3,487
1931	2,496
1932	3,345
1933	2,531
1934	3,253

The great majority of these prosecutions were for offences of a trivial nature.

All traffic is controlled by the force, which carries out the registration of motor vehicles and the examination of drivers.

In addition to ordinary police duties the force is responsible for the inspection of villages and road frontages and the taking of the annual census.

Prisons.

The Minister of Police is in charge of the prisons. There is a main gaol at Nukualofa with sub-gaols at Ha'apai, Vavau, and the two Niuas. There is also a sub-gaol on the Government Agricultural Station at Vaikeli where prisoners grow foodstuffs for the Prison and Police Departments. Juvenile offenders are confined in the latter sub-gaol apart from adult prisoners. Crime among juveniles is very rare. All prisoners undergoing a sentence of over six months' imprisonment are confined in the Nukualofa gaol. The number of prisoners in custody on 1st January and 31st December in the Nukualofa gaol was 29 and 41 respectively.

The main gaol at Nukualofa consists of two main wooden buildings, a women's gaol, and a hospital. There is no provision for the confinement of prisoners in separate cells.

The sub-gaols consist of small wooden buildings suitable for local requirements.

Prisoners are visited regularly by the Medical Officer. The health of prisoners throughout the year was satisfactory.

Prisoners may earn remission of sentence by industry accompanied by good conduct. The maximum remission for prisoners undergoing a first term of imprisonment is one quarter of the sentence.

Orders for payments of fines made in the Magistrates' Courts are not enforced for fourteen days after the making of the order. If the law under which the order is made does not provide for imprisonment in default of payment a warrant of distress is then issued. In default of distress a warrant of commitment issues ordering a defendant to be imprisoned in respect of the sum still remaining unsatisfied by the distress for any term not exceeding the term specified in respect of a like sum in the scale of imprisonment provided in the Magistrates Act.

Provision is made in Tongan law for the probation of offenders. When any person is convicted of an offence, and the Court is of opinion, having regard to the character, age, health or mental condition of the person charged, or to the trivial nature of the offence, or to the extenuating circumstances under which it was committed, that it is inexpedient to inflict any other than a nominal punishment, or that it is expedient to release the offender on probation, the Court may, in lieu of imposing a sentence of imprisonment, make an order discharging the offender conditionally on his entering into a recognizance, with or without securities, to be of good behaviour and to appear for sentence when called upon at any time during such period not exceeding three years as may be specified in the order. When a probation order is made the Court is required to furnish the offender with a notice in writing stating in simple terms the conditions he is required to observe.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Twenty Acts were passed at the 1934 Session of the Tongan Parliament. Important Acts were:—

The Undesirable Immigrants (Amendment) Act.—This Act empowers the Controller of Customs to insist upon a deposit of £50 as a condition precedent to the landing of a destitute immigrant.

The Leases (Renewal) Act.—The object of this Act is to provide for renewals of expiring leases on reasonable terms and thus afford greater security to sitting tenants who had improved their holdings.

The other Acts and regulations passed during the year call for no comment.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The Tongan financial year ends on 30th June. The revenue and expenditure totals for each of the last five years are as follows:—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1929–30	89,505	85,442
1930–31	70,663	78,500
1931–32	57,224	63,986
1932–33	64,072	60,347
1933–34	54,743	64,620

There is no public debt, and at the close of the last financial year the surplus funds of the country amounted to £127,580. These funds are invested in New Zealand, Australia, Straits Settlements, Uganda, Northern Rhodesia, Kenya and Nigeria Stock, and in fixed deposits with the Bank of New Zealand in Sydney and Auckland.

The main heads of taxation are the native tax, Customs dues, and trading licences.

The following table shows the yield of the Customs dues and native tax during the last five years :—

Year.	*Customs.*	*Native tax.*
	£	£
1929–30	41,902	11,919
1930–31	27,026	11,677
1931–32	20,496	9,491
1932–33	22,459	11,673
1933–34	20,181	9,437

The tariff was revised in 1933 so as to introduce preferential duties for goods of Empire origin. The general tariff is 20 per cent. *ad valorem*; the preferential rate is 12½ per cent. Specific duties are applied to a few articles.

The principal specific duties are as follows :—

Article.	*General Tariff.*	*British Preferential Tariff.*
	s. d.	s. d.
Beer, per gal.	2 0	1 6
Benzine, per gal.	4	4
Cigarettes, per lb.	10 0	8 0
Flour, per 150 lb.	4 3	2 6
Kerosene of 150 degrees or over closed flash test, per gal.	3	3
Spirits of all kinds, of which the strength can be ascertained by Sykes' hydrometer and which is proof or over-proof—per proof gal.	34 0	28 0
Spirits of all kinds, of which the strength can be ascertained by Sykes' hydrometer and which is underproof—per liquid gal.	29 0	23 0
Sugar, per lb.	1	½
Timber, undressed, per 100 sq. ft. ...	2 0	1 6
Timber, dressed, per 100 sq. ft.	2 6	2 0
Tobacco manufactured, per lb. ...	7 0	5 0

The principal articles on the free list are :—

Bags, new, for copra.

Agricultural machinery and implements.

There is an export tax on copra of £1 per ton.

There are no excise duties.

	s.	d.
The principal stamp duties on documents are :—		
Agreement or memorandum of agreement (whether the same be evidence of a contract or obligatory upon the parties from its being a written document)—		
Where the value amounts to £1 but does not exceed £3		2
Where the value exceeds £3 but does not exceed £10	1	0
Where the value exceeds £10 then for every additional £10 and also for every part of £10 (but not to exceed 10s. on any such document)	2	0
Bill of lading and each copy	1	0
Bill of exchange—		
(1) Payable on demand or at sight or on presentation		2
(2) Payable otherwise than on demand, sight, or presentation, drawn or expressed to be payable in or actually paid or endorsed in any manner negotiated in the Kingdom—		
For any sum not exceeding £50	1	0
For every additional £50 and also for every fractional part of £50	1	0
Promissory note of any kind (except a Bank note or Currency note)—		
For any sum not exceeding £5		2
Exceeding £5 but not exceeding £25		6
For every additional £25 and also for every fractional part of £25		6
(Exemptions—All bills of exchange or promissory notes issued by any Bank for Government purposes to the Treasurer.)		
Lease or agreement for a lease or any written document for the tenancy or occupancy of any land or buildings—		
The following duties in respect of the rent at the rate per annum—		
Where the rent does not exceed £25	2	0
Where the rent exceeds £25 and does not exceed £50	5	0
Above £50, for every £50, and also for every fractional part of £50	5	0

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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF TONGA FOR THE YEAR 1936

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I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Kingdom of Tonga consists of three main groups of islands called respectively Tongatabu, Ha'apai and Vavau, together with the outlying islands of Niuafoou, Niuatobutabu and Tafahi.

The main groups are situated between the 18th and 22nd degrees of South latitude and 173rd and 176th degrees of West longitude, and extend over an area of approximately 250 square miles.

The islands consist of two parallel chains running north and south. The western chain is volcanic in formation and the eastern corralline. With the exception of Tofua and Falcon islands the volcanoes are dormant or extinct.

The island of Niuatobutabu was discovered by the Dutch navigators Schouten and Lemaire in 1616. They did not visit the main groups.

In 1643 Tongatabu was discovered by Tasman, and from that year until 1767, when Wallis anchored in Niuatobutabu, there was no contact with the outside world. Captain Cook visited Tongatabu and the Ha'apai group in 1773 and again in 1777, and named the islands the Friendly Islands. In 1789 Captain Bligh visited the Ha'apai group. It was in the waters of this group that the mutiny of the *Bounty* occurred.

Niuafoou was discovered by Captain Edwards in H.M.S. *Pandora* in the year 1791.

Contact with the outside world was now established.

Climate.

The climate of the Tongan group from May to November is good for the tropics. The thermometer rarely registers higher than 80 degrees and the humidity during these months is, as a rule, relatively low. During the wet season, from December to April, the temperature rarely rises above 90 degrees, but the humidity, especially when the wind is northerly, is high. This season is trying for Europeans. The meteorological summary for the year is appended to this Report.

History.

The early history of Tonga is enshrouded in myth, and any attempt to reconstruct the past is based on the list of the Tui Tonga, the ancient kings. This list has been compiled by ethnologists and dates back to the 10th century. The extent of the dominions of these ancient kings is not clearly known, but there is evidence that they possessed overlordship over a vast area of Polynesia, whence they received tribute. The kingship was hereditary and the power of the Tui Tonga was absolute. About the 15th century, after the murder of a Tui Tonga, his successor, while retaining his sacred powers, divested himself of much of his executive authority, which he transferred to his brother, whom he henceforth called the Tui Haatakalaua. At this time it may be said that there were two kings in Tonga, the spiritual and the temporal. About the middle of the 17th century the temporal king transferred his executive power to a brother, retaining for himself the presentation of offerings from his people. The new chief was called the Tui Kanokupolu, and succession to the title, though not hereditary, was kept within the family. From the date of the creation of the new title the powers of the Tui Tonga and the Tui Haatakalaua gradually passed into the

hands of the Tui Kanokupolu and in the middle of the 19th century, upon the death of the then Tui Tonga, the insignia of the ancient title of the Tui Tonga were conferred upon the Tui Kanokupolu, King George I, the founder of the reigning dynasty. While the evolution of a sacred line of chiefs is not without historic parallel, the double delegation of powers renders difficult the true understanding of the ancient Tongan polity.

Evidence remains in modern Tonga of the power of the ancient kings in the form of the stone monuments which still exist. Chief of these is the Haamoga—a trilithon consisting of two large upright coral stones about 16 feet high, with a connecting stone, 19 feet long, laid horizontally across and mortised into the tops of the upright pieces, the visible parts of which are estimated to weigh between 30 and 40 tons. It was probably erected about the 13th century. Tradition is not consistent as to the reason which impelled the then Tui Tonga to erect this monument, but it is evidentiary of an absolute power. Its state of preservation is excellent. Other evidence of the powers of the ancient kings is to be found in the langis, the royal burial grounds which still exist in Tonga. They consist of quadrilaterial mounds, faced by hugh blocks of stone, rising sometimes in terraces to a height of 20 feet. The stones are coral, of immense weight, and can only have been placed in position by the concerted labour of a large body of men skilled in the use of rollers and levers. The stones out of which the monuments were constructed were probably quarried from the coral reefs, though there is a strong traditionary evidence that many of them came from distant Polynesian islands.

From the close of the 18th century the history of Tonga can be obtained from the chronicles of Europeans who visited the islands or from European missionary sources. During the first half of the 19th century the islands were the scene of civil wars. These were finally checked during the reign of King George I who had by conquest gathered all power in his own hands. He was finally proclaimed King in 1845. King George I came strongly under missionary influence and, though his rule was absolute, he determined to grant a Constitution, based on the English model, to the Tongans. This Constitution, granted over fifty years ago, has been from time to time amended, yet in essentials the present Constitution differs little from the original. King George died in 1893, at the age of ninety-six, after a memorable reign of nearly fifty years. He was the creator of modern Tonga. He was succeeded by his great-grandson, King George II. The present monarch, Queen Salote Tubou, D.B.E., succeeded to the throne on the death of her father King George II in 1918.

A Protectorate was proclaimed over Tonga in 1900 and a British Agent appointed.

The language of the group is Tongan, though the laws and Government *Gazettes* are published in both English and Tongan.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

Under the Constitution of Tonga the Government is divided into three bodies, the Queen, Privy Council, and Cabinet; the Legislative Assembly; and the Judiciary. The chief executive body is the Queen-in-Council, and executive decisions of lesser import are taken in Cabinet over which the Premier presides. The law-making power is vested in the Assembly which consists of the members of the Privy Council, seven nobles elected by their peers, and seven representatives elected by the people. Elections are held triennially. A limited law-making power is vested in the Privy Council; any legislation passed by the Executive is subject to review at the next meeting of the Legislature. At present the technical and financial departments are administered by European members of the Tongan civil service, and Tongan ministers control the other departments. The northern group of islands, Ha'apai and Vavau, together with the outlying islands are administered by Tongan Governors who are members of, and responsible to, the Executive. Minor Tongan officials perform statutory duties in connection with the village life of the people.

No constitutional changes took place during the year.

III.—POPULATION.

The Tongan population at the census taken in April, 1936, was 31,604. The increase in the population during the year ending April, 1936, was 2·86 per cent., compared with ·80 per cent. for 1935.

The figures for other races are as follows:—

Europeans	342
Half-castes	490
Other Pacific Islanders	206
Others	139

The incidence of the non-Tongan population has not varied appreciably during the last 10 years.

The average density of population for all races is 131·16 per square mile.

The following figures show the vital statistics of the Tongan population for the five years ending 31st December last:—

Year.	*Number of Births.*	*Birth-rate. Per Mille.*
1932	1,180	40·47
1933	1,139	37·99
1934	1,191	38·88
1935	1,194	37·90
1936	1,230	38·21

As regards the sexes of the children born the following table shows the proportion for the last five years:—

Year.	*Males.*	*Females.*
1932	1,156·6	1,000
1933	1,228·9	1,000
1934	1,000·0	1,013·5
1935	1,027·1	1,000
1936	1,157·1	1,000

The illegitimate births amounted to 251. The following table shows the proportion of illegitimate births to every 100 births during the last five years:—

Year.	*Percentage.*
1932	15·42
1933	18·29
1934	17·96
1935	20·10
1936	20·30

The following table shows the number of deaths and the death-rate for the last five years:—

Year.	*Number of Deaths*	*Death-rate.*
1932	417	14·64
1933	432	14·36
1934	430	14·03
1935	399	12·71
1936	529	16·25

The following table shows the infant mortality rate for the last five years:—

Year.	*In per mille of Births.*
1932	74·50
1933	75·60
1934	71·30
1935	91·60
1936	95·93

The following table sets out the total number of marriages performed and the marriage rate for the last five years:—

Year.	*Total Number*	*Rate per mille of population.*
1932	243	8·02
1933	227	7·58
1934	188	6·13
1935	229	7·11
1936	229	7·11

The Chief Justice of Tonga is the Registrar-General of births, marriages, and deaths of Tongan subjects. Registration in the case of British subjects and foreigners is provided for under

the provisions of the Pacific Order in Council, 1893, and Regulations made thereunder, and is effected at the office of the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

IV.—HEALTH.

The Medical Department of the Government of Tonga consists of three medical officers, a dentist, a European nurse, seven Tongan medical practitioners and a Tongan subordinate staff. Three Tongan nurses are on the staff at Nukualofa Hospital and there is one Tongan nurse at each of the two hospitals in the northern group of islands. Four Tongan students are studying at the Central Medical School, Suva, Fiji.

The Tongans receive free medical attention. Other patients are charged fees on a scale laid down by the Executive. Fees are paid direct into revenue. The dentist receives a retaining fee from the Government. Tongans receive free treatment in cases of extractions and temporary stoppings. They are also treated freely for pyorrhoea, the incidence of which is heavy.

Provision was made for an expenditure of £7,449 on medical and health services. This sum is equivalent to 12·79 per cent. of the estimated revenue for the year. There are three hospitals in Tonga. The main hospital at Nukualofa is well equipped to meet the needs of the community. It consists of European and Tongan wards, three maternity wards, in separate buildings, and a dispensary. The hospital has a portable X-ray outfit. The other hospitals are in Ha'apai and Vavau. They are suitable for local requirements.

Tonga is purely an agricultural country. There are no estates in the commonly accepted sense of the term. Reference to the system of land tenure is made below. In recording statistical information as to the prevalence of disease it follows that the figures refer only to the home life of the people and the quesion of disease caused by work in factories or mines does not arise.

Disease.	*Number of cases during the year.*
Filariasis	1,428
Tetanus	10
Leprosy	1
Conjunctivitis	588
Trachoma	255
Typhoid fever	206
Yaws	502
Dysentery	66
Tuberculosis	71
Pneumonia	112
Measles	11,023

Comparative figures of reported cases of typhoid are as follows:—

Year.	*Number of cases.*
1932	165
1933	147
1934	142
1935	112
1936	206

The disease is endemic. During the year a total of 351 prophylactic inoculations were given.

Comparative figures of reported cases of dysentery are as follows:—

Year.	*Number of cases.*
1932	12
1933	59
1934	56
1935	46
1936	66

Most of the cases notified during the year were bacillary in character.

Comparative figures of reported cases of tuberculosis are as follows:—

Year.	*Number of cases.*
1932	256
1933	230
1934	106
1935	131
1936	71

This disease is by far the commonest cause of death; out of 201 patients attended by the Medical Department and subsequently dying, 18 per cent. died from some form of tuberculosis.

Comparative figures of reported cases of yaws are as follows:—

Year.	*Number of cases.*
1932	575
1933	663
1934	594
1935	988
1936	502

A total of 1,377 B.S.T. and 583 N.A.B. injections were given.

A moderately severe epidemic of measles affected the whole group in the middle of the year. The first case was discovered on a local schooner which had recently returned from Fiji. The epidemic assumed pandemic magnitude affecting practically every home. The total number of notified cases was 11,023. The total mortality was 31.

The principal causes of death, when a member of the Medical Department was in attendance, were:—

	Per cent.		*Per cent.*
Tuberculosis ...	18·0	Cancer	6·2
Measles	15·4	Septic conditions	3·5
Pneumonia ...	9·0	Tetanus	2·4
Typhoid fever ...	8·5	Nutritional ...	2·1
Nervous diseases	8·0	Parturition ...	1·9
Cardiac disease	7·0	Respiratory ...	1·0

The following is a summary of the work performed during the year by the medical staff at the three hospitals:—

	Nukualofa.	*Vavau.*	*Ha'apai.*
Admissions	340	156	25
Major operations ...	198	35	12
Minor operations ...	1,336	618	326
Outpatients:—			
Attendances	35,686	8,680	21,485
Visits	9,511	4,134	5,468
Anaesthetics	648	70	413
Confinements ...	106	43	25
Sanitary inspections...	379	1,500	700

The figures for two dispensaries in Tongatabu are included in the outpatient department figures of Nukualofa hospital.

The following is a summary of the work performed by the Tongan staff at outlying dispensaries in Niuafoou, Niuatobutabu, Nomuka and Eua:

Minor operations	321
Intravenous injections for yaws	222
Attendances as out-patients	14,579
Visits	4,148
Confinements	91
Sanitary inspections	7

The following is a summary of the work performed during the year by the Dental Department:—

Number of patients	1,347
Extractions	1,880
Fillings	359
Pyorrhoea cases treated	127

The Government dentist visited the northern islands of the group during the year.

The value of institutional treatment of maternity cases is becoming appreciated by the Tongans. There were 170 attendances at the ante-natal clinic at Nukualofa Hospital and mothers are encouraged to come to hospital for their confinements, as

far as the limitation of space permits. An infant welfare clinic has also been established. There were 82 attendances during the year. Free supplies of food for infants, when necessary, are provided.

As regards sanitation, the work of erecting cement latrines has been completed and the use of a standard pattern approved by the Board of Health is compulsory. Progress, though slow, is being made in the construction of cement tanks for water conservation and in the repairs of existing village tanks. In the past many large tanks were built in Tonga with no catchment area except their own roofs. The village churches afford excellent catchment but there was a repugnance among the Tongans to use the church roof for this purpose. This antipathy has now disappeared. There are no rivers or streams in Tonga and it is essential, in the interest of the public health, that a complete system of rain-water conservation tanks be installed. As a prevention against typhoid and dysentry the necessity of an unpolluted supply of drinking water is apparent. During periods of drought the people are frequently dependent on well-water for general domestic purposes.

V.—HOUSING.

The Tongan native house is built with reed sides and thatched roof. It is illegal to build a house less than 12 ft. in length and proportionately broad. The average size, however, is approximately 20 ft. long and 12 ft. broad. The native kitchen is merely a shelter built apart from the dwelling house. Ordinary plots are used for cooking purposes, but on special occasions food is always prepared in a native oven. This consists of a pit about 3 ft. deep which is lined with stones. The stones are heated by means of a flue and the food—pork, fish, or fowl, and native root crops—is baked among the stones which are covered with leaves and earth.

The Tongan in later years has shown a preference for the European style of house and, according to the census figures of 1936, approximately one-third of the houses are now of wooden construction with corrugated iron roofs. These cottages consist of one or more rooms and verandah. While they lack the picturesqueness of the native house they are easier to maintain. The tendency to prefer the European type of house is accentuated by the fact that the supply of wood and thatching materials suitable for house building is limited. Economic depression has, however, checked the substitution of the thatched cottage by the wooden house and the houses built in recent years are mostly of native construction. There is no housing problem in Tonga and a wage-earning class may be said not to exist, as the people are peasant proprietors. The houses are the property of the people. Legal provision is made

for an annual inspection of houses and if any house is found to be in bad repair or badly drained it is lawful for the Tongan District Officer to order the owner to rebuild or provide proper drainage. Provision is also made for the weeding of the land around the houses and an inspection is made in the towns every two months to ensure that town sites are kept clean.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Tonga is purely an agricultural country. The chief crop is copra and production is almost entirely confined to the Tongans. There are a few European leaseholds but the percentage of copra exported by Europeans is negligible. The Tongan is a peasant proprietor and cultivates in person his statutory area of 8¼ acres to which reference is made below. Plantation labour, in the ordinary sense of the term, does not therefore exist. Approximately 20 per cent. of the coconut crop is consumed locally. It is used for cooking and drinking purposes, or for feeding pigs and fowls. The average annual value of the copra crop exported during the past five years has been £86,456. Every Tongan taxpayer is an actual or potential copra producer. There are at present 8,445 taxpayers. European influence has not, in the past, speaking generally, had any material influence on the method of copra production by the Tongan. In modern times legislation has been passed to provide for the proper spacing of newly-planted trees, and it is now an incident of the tenure of the 8¼-acre allotment of a Tongan that one-half of the area should be planted with coconut trees in rows, and so arranged that the trees are 30 ft. apart. The legislation further provides for the weeding and inspection of allotments. The Tongan cultivator in the past planted his coconut trees closely together and it is difficult to persuade the ordinary farmer that a thinning out of overplanted areas will result in an increased crop. Legislative provision was made in 1926 having for its object the improvement in the quality of the copra exported, and it is an offence for a trader to have in his possession bad or damaged copra. In 1935 further provision was made in an amending Act to ensure that traders had proper drying platforms for copra.

Prior to the War there was considerable trade with New Zealand in bananas and citrus fruits, but the absence of direct communication with the Dominion, which ceased during the War, killed the trade. During the year 1931 satisfactory transport arrangements were made and banana production for export purposes recommenced. The first shipment of fruit was made in December, 1931. In 1932 exports amounted to 47,659 cases valued at £10,452. In 1933 exports amounted to 17,098 cases valued at £3,782. The banana industry received a severe setback in 1933, as a result of the severe gales experienced towards

the latter part of February, when practically all the tall varieties of bananas were laid flat and others severely damaged. In 1932 an arrangement was concluded with His Majesty's Government in New Zealand allotting a quota share of the Dominion banana market to Fiji and Tonga, the combined quota for the two administrations was fixed at 12,000 cases from May to September and 15,000 cases from October to April. The Tongan share of the quota was subsequently fixed at 20 per cent. of the total Fiji-Tonga quota, and Tonga commenced shipments on this basis in January, 1933. In 1934, owing to lack of shipping, it was only possible to send nine shipments, amounting to 26,402 cases, valued at £6,907, to the Dominion. In 1935 the combined quota was reduced and the Tongan share of the quota was fixed at 1,900 cases in May, 2,500 from June to September, and 2,400 from October to April. During the year, 29,793 cases were shipped, valued at £8,352. In 1936 the combined quota was again reduced and the Tongan share fixed at 2,200 cases from October to April and 1,700 cases from May to September. During the year 25,928 cases were shipped, valued at £7,373. The Tongan does not use the ordinary banana, to any degree, as a foodstuff and fruit production over market requirements would be used as feeding-stuff for pigs.

In addition to bananas small shipments of pineapples and kumaras (sweet potatoes), of an approximate value of £365, were shipped to New Zealand. Bêche-de-mer to the value of £516 was shipped to Hong Kong and New Zealand.

The main vegetable food of the Tongan consists of yams, taro, kumaras, and plantains. The approximate area under root crops is 8,000 acres. These crops are grown for local consumption only and it would be impossible to form any accurate estimate of their value.

The soil throughout the group is very fertile and in Tongatabu European vegetables of most summer varieties are easily grown except during the hot months of December to April. They are cultivated chiefly for local consumption by Europeans. The amount produced is limited by the extent of the available market.

Livestock production is confined, in general, to pigs, cattle, and goats. There is no export of livestock.

There are approximately 20,186 pigs in the group. They are used as a foodstuff by the Tongans and on ceremonial occasions they form an important part of the feast.

Cattle are limited in number and owned chiefly by Europeans. The younger Tongan is showing a tendency to keep cows. This, however, is a modern development due to contact with Europeans.

The Tongan does not as a rule sell his pigs and it would be difficult therefore to form an estimate of their value. The number of goats, according to the census figure for the year, is 3,233.

There is no mineral production in Tonga.

There are no fisheries.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The following table shows the value of the import and export trade during the last five years:—

Year.	*Imports.*	*Exports.*
	£	£
1932	86,006	96,163
1933	86,007	114,447
1934	48,526	77,842
1935	68,782	90,711
1936	92,296	116,539

The export trade during the year was confined almost entirely to copra, bananas, and a small amount of bêche-de-mer. Copra is exported on optional bills of lading, and is mostly sold on the Continent of Europe. The quantity and value of copra exported during the last five years are as follows:—

Year.	*Tons.*	*Value.*
		£
1932	8,323	83,228
1933	11,397	105,028
1934	10,154	59,941
1935	12,039	79,003
1936	11,899	105,078

The principal imports, apart from drapery, benzine and kerosene, were of Empire origin. The following table shows the countries of origin and value of imports from these countries during the last five years:—

Country of origin.	**1932.*	**1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
	£	£	£	£	£
New Zealand ...	29,743	22,343	10,826	16,079	21,911
Australia	28,759	24,410	10,325	12,932	24,606
United Kingdom ...	10,495	11,155	8,295	10,159	13,246
India	—	1,144	5,208	4,874	5,510
Fiji	5,026	6,734	3,765	1,499	1,906
Other British Territories	84	118	1,008	1,898	3,206
United States of America	5,224	10,172	3,090	7,990	5,441
Japan	6,475	9,528	4,187	11,069	13,291
Other Foreign Countries	199	395	1,822	2,282	3,180

* Imports classified according to country of consignment. From 1934 onwards classification was by country of origin.

The details and value of principal imports during the last five years are as follows:—

General Description.	*1932.* £	*1933.* £	*1934.* £	*1935.* £	*1936.* £
Bags, gunny	5,959	7,076	5,164	4,754	5,320
Beer	1,098	1,176	857	650	818
Benzine	2,373	3,440	1,086	2,825	1,808
Biscuits	1,011	1,079	569	691	1,068
Butter	1,273	957	634	853	1,103
Cigars and cigarettes...	388	407	272	325	337
Cordage and Rope ...	830	1,164	466	1,002	1,018
Drapery	16,185	15,345	5,356	13,219	14,371
Flour	4,990	5,595	2,534	4,773	9,650
Galvanized ware ...	1,224	1,293	494	1,369	1,250
Hardware	2,636	2,801	1,169	1,113	1,774
Meats, tinned ...	10,091	9,369	4,650	7,639	10,882
Motor cars and parts	447	1,130	724	1,431	2,145
Soap	1,646	1,675	1,416	1,739	1,958
Spirits	867	1,141	1,206	402	520
Sugar	2,392	2,548	1,742	1,948	3,156
Tobacco	1,292	1,705	1,073	1,451	1,905
Timber	367	2,773	305	914	1,768

The rise in the value of imports during the year is accounted for by the improved condition of the copra market. The Tongan is a free spender and the commercial houses, who had been carrying light stocks, imported more freely than they had done for a considerable period.

Imports from the United Kingdom showed a slight improvement but the adverse exchange position (Tongan currency is on the Australian basis) and the importation of cheap foreign draperies seriously affects a material improvement. Imports from the United Kingdom consist chiefly of hardware, soft goods, drugs and medical supplies.

During the year drapery imports from the United Kingdom were valued at £2,287 as against £10,910 from Japan.

The market for the British light car is limited. Benzine is retailed at 2s. per gallon and the advantages of the low horse-powered car in the matter of running expenses are obvious. At the end of the year 83 private cars and 42 commercial vehicles were registered. Of these only thirteen cars and one lorry were British.

Imports from New Zealand and Australia consist chiefly of flour, sugar, tinned meats, beer, and tobacco. Gunny bags, used for copra, are of Indian origin.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

It is difficult to draw a comparison between the cost of living in the United Kingdom and Tonga on account of the general difference in conditions. The general tariff on imported goods is 20 per cent. *ad valorem* and the preferential tariff 12½ per cent.; freight charges on imports are high. There is, on the

other hand, no income tax. Supplies of fresh meat, milk, eggs, poultry, and ice are obtainable in Nukualofa, the seat of Government.

In the outlying islands fresh meat, milk, and ice are not procurable. Excellent vegetables are obtainable in Nukualofa, except during the months of December to April, at reasonable prices. The following table shows the current prices of certain necessary commodities:—

Sugar	4d. per lb.
Tea	2s. 6d. to 4s. per lb.
Butter	1s. 6d. local; 2s. imported.
Flour	3d. per lb.
Onions	4d. per lb.
Eggs	1s. 6d. to 2s. per doz.
Bacon	1s. 9d. per lb.
Ham	1s. 9d. per lb.
Bread	9d. per 2-lb. loaf.
Meat	9d. to 1s. per lb.
Poultry	2s. to 3s. a fowl.
Kerosene	10s. per 4-gallon tin.
Benzine	10s. per 4-gallon tin.

The household budget of an official will, on the whole, be approximately 25 to 30 per cent. higher in Tonga than in the United Kingdom.

The number of labourers employed in Tonga is negligible. The Tongan cultivates his own farm. A few Solomon Islanders, Fijians, and Indians work in the stores or on European plantations. The average wage of a store labourer is 3s. a day with two meals. These labourers were in the past brought from Fiji and their passages paid by their employers. The hours of work of a labourer in stores are nine a day. The Government employs Tongan labour on the roads. The unskilled man receives 3s. a day. Labourers on the plantations are few in number. They receive a wage of £2 to £4 a month with food.

Domestic servants are expensive. Tongan men do not engage in domestic duties and Tongan girls receive a wage of £2 10s. to £3 a month and food. Indian cooks from Fiji, when procurable, receive a wage of £5 to £6 a month, with food, and in addition their fares from and to Fiji are paid by their employers.

The staple foodstuff of the Tongan is root crops grown on his own farm. He uses his pigs as a meat diet. Fish, locally caught, is extensively eaten. It would be difficult to assess with any degree of accuracy his cost of living.

When labourers are rationed by employers the cost is approximately £1 10s. a month. They are given a diet similar to that of a Tongan.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

The early history of education in Tonga is closely associated with the activities of the Christian Missions. The Government, however, decided on the establishment of State schools at an early stage in the development of the country; there are references to such schools in speeches by King George I delivered over 50 years ago. In 1882 the first King founded Tonga College. He made a personal gift of the valuable site on which the College was built and also endowed it with a large area of planting land. Since its foundation over 4,500 students have been in residence.

Some years before Tonga College was founded, the King had founded Tubou College. The Wesleyan Mission since 1826 had carried out educational work but the foundation of the College in 1866 marked a definite advance. Girls were admitted to Tubou College in 1870 and it is on record that girls have been captains of the whole school.

In 1888 the Roman Catholic Mission founded Api Foou College for the further training of selected boys from parochial schools.

In the various Tonga Codes of Law which have been published during the last 50 years statutes dealing with education have been included. In 1927 a comprehensive Act was passed. Education is compulsory for all Tongans between the ages of six and fourteen years. The schools, under the Education Act, are divided into three types, primary, middle, and high. The primary schools provide an elementary education in the vernacular. There are 68 Government and 44 denominational primary schools. The average daily attendance throughout the year was 5,576. The Tongan population at the census taken in April, 1936, was 31,604. Of this total 8,445 are taxpayers, i.e., males over the age of 16 years. The number of males and females in the country is approximately the same. If, therefore, allowance is made for the children who have not reached the school age and those between the ages of 14 and 16 years, it will be seen that practically all Tongans between the ages of six and 14 attended the primary schools. These schools provide an education in accordance with a Government syllabus and are subject to an inspection. Elementary instruction is given in the three Rs, history of Tonga, geography, hygiene, singing, needlework, and native arts. The buildings of the Government primary schools were, until the year 1930, provided and maintained by the taxpayers of the villages. By an amending law of that year they are charged on general revenue. Education is free. In all primary schools there is co-education.

It has not been possible to establish the middle schools provided for in the Act. At these an elementary education on an English basis will be given. In the primary schools the medium of instruction is Tongan, but in several of these elementary instruction in English is now given.

The Colleges to which reference has been made above provide a general secondary education of a simple nature. They are residential.

The staff at the Government College consists of three European masters, five Tongan masters, and a bandmaster. There are 230 boys in residence. The ordinary academic subjects are taught; the medium of instruction is English. The boys grow their own food, mostly vegetables and root crops, on the College plantation. The College brass band during term gives a weekly recital in the War Memorial Band Rotunda in Nukualofa and plays on official occasions. The band was first formed in the College in 1886 under the conductorship of the grandson of the royal founder of the College.

The Director of Education, who is also Principal of the College, conducts an annual course of instruction at the College for teachers from the Government primary schools during the long vacation. Instruction is practical and theoretical and the results have proved useful.

Tubou College is a Free Wesleyan Mission school. It is now divided into two parts, the boys' school at Nafualu and the girls' school at Nukualofa. Both are residential. At the end of the year there were 329 boys and 119 girls in residence. The staff at the boys' school consists of one European and five Tongans; at the girls' school there are two European and one Tongan teachers. The objective of the school at Nafualu is the training of boys in academic subjects to fit them for general usefulness in the country and especially in the Church, as primary school teachers in Mission schools. In examinations conducted by the Government the record of the school is particularly good. It possesses a museum housed in an historic Tongan Church which was removed from Nukualofa and re-erected in the school grounds. The museum building is the finest example of Tongan architecture now extant. The collection consists of over 200 exhibits.

At the girls' school the curriculum is similar to that taught in the boys' school, domestic science being substituted for the agricultural training given to the boys.

At Api Foou College, there are 115 students in residence. The staff consists of one European and six Tongans.

Secondary education for girls, apart from Mission, is undeveloped.

No provision is made by the Government for the education of European children. The Missions have schools which the children attend. Instruction of an elementary type only is given.

A scholarship scheme was inaugurated in 1927 under which Tongan students from the secondary schools proceed abroad for higher education. At present one scholar is in residence at Newington College, Australia, and four scholars have entered the Central Medical School, Fiji. The value of the scholarships is £150 per annum at Newington College and £100 per annum at the Central Medical School.

Expenditure on educational services amounted to £6,248. This sum is equivalent to 10·9 per cent. of the total expenditure for the year.

No fees are charged in any Government schools.

The following fees are charged at Mission schools:—

Wesleyan Mission. Secondary Schools only. Boys—£1 per annum. Girls—£2 per annum.

Roman Catholic Mission. Schools at Nukualofa in Tongatabu and Neiafu in Vavau. One shilling per week.

Latter Day Saints Mission. Secondary school only, 10s. per annum.

No fees are charged at the other schools of these Missions nor at the schools conducted by the Anglican Mission, the Seventh Day Adventist Mission and the Free Church of Tonga.

During the year 1931 an Education Commission was appointed to report, *inter alia,* upon the present administration of the Education Department, with special reference to the supervision and inspection of primary schools, the training of teachers, and the suitability or otherwise of the primary school syllabus. A recommendation of the Commission that primary school work should, so far as possible, be transferred to the Missions, assisted by grants-in-aid, has been approved in Parliament, but action has not yet been taken.

The Government of Tonga contributes to the funds of the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies.

Games play an important part in Tongan school life The Tongan is a keen rugby footballer and cricketer and a particularly good tennis player. The sports meeting between Tonga College and Tubou College is one of the big events of Tongan social life. At the girls' school basket ball is extensively played.

The Tongan is a keen musician. Brass and string bands exist in most of the principal towns.

The Tongan is keen also on concerts at which European and Tongan items are performed. Considerable ability is displayed in staging simple plays which are frequently included in concert programmes.

On account of the nature of Tongan polity it is unnecessary to make any provision for orphanages or for the maintenance of persons incapacitated by sickness or accident or for the aged. In all cases care and maintenance devolve upon the relatives who assume responsibility as a matter of course.

During the year 1931 a " European Aid Society " was formed in Nukualofa, having for its object the assistance of aged Europeans. The society is a voluntary one and is kept in funds by small uniform subscriptions from residents. It represents a modest effort on the part of Europeans to render assistance to deserving cases which have arisen in the community.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

A regular four-weekly subsidized cargo service between Nukualofa and Auckland was maintained during the first half of the year by a small steamer under charter to the Union Steamship Company. The vessel had no accommodation for passengers. It was replaced in the second half of the year by the Company's new ship, the M. V. *Matua*. This vessel has accommodation for passengers and is specially refrigerated for the fruit trade. The route followed is Auckland, Rarotonga, Tonga, Samoa, Fiji, Auckland. During the cool season (May to October) the vessel proceeds to Tonga direct from Auckland. In addition nine vessels visited the Protectorate during the year for copra cargoes. Of these, two were British, six Swedish, and one Panamanian.

One tourist vessel visited Nukualofa during the year.

The total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared at the two ports of entry amounted to 79,207. Of this total 40,614 were British, 34,578 Swedish, and 2,342 Panamanian.

Inter-insular communication is maintained by a Japanese auxiliary ketch. It is a small ship fitted with a semi-diesel engine.

Roads.

There are approximately 42 miles of metalled road in Tongatabu and 14 miles in Vavau suitable for motor traffic. The by-roads are graded earth roads; they are unsuitable for heavy traffic during rains.

There are no railways in the islands.

Telephones and Wireless.

The Tongan Government maintains a wireless station at Nukualofa and sub-stations at Vavau, Ha'apai, Niuafoou, and Niuatobutabu. The sub-stations communicate only with the main station. Nukualofa radio communicates with New Zealand, Samoa, and Fiji and thence to all parts of the world. The service with New Zealand was inaugurated in April, 1935, and is conducted on short wave by the Nukualofa and Wellington

fixed stations. The sub-stations are equipped with locally-built continuous wave valve transmitters rated at 20 watts input. The power supplied for the valves is furnished by a battery of Leclanche' type primary cells. The sub-stations are operated by Tongans who receive training locally. The new system has worked satisfactorily.

The following table shows the traffic handled during the year and the revenue received.

Station.	*Messages.*	*Received.*	*Despatched.*	*Revenue.*
				£
Nukualofa ...	Government	—	169	50
	Ordinary	1,381	1,483	431
Vavau	Government	52	43	26
	Ordinary	650	787	152
Ha'apai	Government	50	48	24
	Ordinary	457	532	103
Niuafoou	Government	32	25	27
	Ordinary	121	248	46
Niuatobutabu ...	Government	28	36	23
	Ordinary	66	122	20

Messages, 7,881; words, 92,173; revenue, £884.

The terminal charges of the Nukualofa radio for all Tongan stations is 6d. per word from abroad. The inter-insular charge is 4d.

There is a telephone system in Nukualofa which is administered by the Superintendent of Telegraphs. There are 84 subscribers.

The following statement shows the total revenue and expenditure on wireless and telephone services during the year:—

	£
Revenue.—Wireless fees	884
Telephone fees	203
	£1,087
	£
Expenditure.—Personal emoluments	1,306
Other charges	595
	£1,901

The wireless operators in the sub-stations perform also the duties of district clerks and are paid from the vote of the department to which they are attached.

Fifty broadcast receiving licences were issued during the year. Australia, New Zealand, North American, Mexican, Japanese and Fiji stations are heard throughout the year provided weather conditions are not unfavourable. These stations are received from approximately 6 p.m., local time. Auckland is

received all day in the winter months. Fiji programme is received at any time the station is operating.

The main European, American, Japanese and Australian short wave stations are regularly received. The times of reception are early morning, late afternoon and night.

As regards the Empire Broadcasting Service the transmission best received locally is No. 4—the African Transmission. This is heard from the opening of the Transmission, 5.45 a.m. Tongan time, and held until about 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. in the Tongan hot and cool seasons, respectively.

Transmission No. 6 is heard from approximately 3.45 p.m. until 4.20 p.m. when the Transmission closes.

Transmission No. 1, which is intended for evening reception in the Pacific, is seldom received well locally, especially when the programme is not radiated until 8 a.m. G.M.T.

It can be stated that there is seldom a day throughout the year when it is not possible to receive the Empire news from either Transmission No. 4 or No. 6.

Posts.

Foreign mails were despatched throughout the year by Union Steamship Company boats and copra vessels.

Collectors of Customs at Nukualofa and Vavau act as postmasters at these ports. There are sub-post offices in some of the main villages of Tongatabu. British postal-orders are issued at the chief post offices. Money-orders are also issued. During the year the total value of stamps sold amounted to £1,132. Money-orders to a value of £1,862 were issued and orders to a value of £471 paid. Postal-orders issued and paid amounted in value to £272 and £13, respectively.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

A Government Savings Bank was established in 1926. The following statistics show the operations of the Bank since its institution:—

Year.	*Deposits.* £	*Withdrawals.* £
1926	3,495	558
1927	7,929	3,900
1928	12,341	9,717
1929	11,359	8,528
1930	23,689	14,228
1931	15,930	11,358
1932	19,763	15,546
1933	10,578	15,303
1934	17,649	18,797
1935	10,005	16,310
1936	12,519	10,967

The total amount at the credit of depositors at the end of the year was £20,050.

The number of depositors at the end of the year was:—

Tongans	1,253
Europeans and others	167

Interest at the rate of 2¾ per cent. was allowed on the first £500 deposited and at the rate of 2½ per cent. for an additional amount up to £1,000.

The invested funds of the Bank amount to £16,924.

There is no other Bank in Tonga.

There are no Building, Co-operative, or Friendly Societies.

Currency.

British and Australian coin was made the currency of Tonga by a Statute passed by the Tongan Parliament in 1906. Tongan Government notes were issued in 1919; at the present time notes to the value of £21,268 are in circulation. The issue is secured by an investment reserve. The Treasury Notes Act, 1935, adopts the exchange standard system based on Australian Currency.

Weights and Measures.

British weights and measures are, by Statute, the standard weights and measures of the country.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The Works Department of the Government of Tonga has been reduced, for financial reasons, to a skeleton staff and now consists of an Engineer assisted by a Tongan staff. Works beyond the capacity of the Department are carried out by contractors from abroad or by arrangement with the Public Works Department of Fiji. The activities of the Department were confined to maintenance work on buildings and roads.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

There are two jurisdictions in Tonga, the British and the Tongan.

The British Agent holds a commission as a Deputy Commissioner of His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner's Court for the Western Pacific. He is a Judicial Commissioner in Divorce. Under the provisions of the Treaty of 1900, jurisdiction in civil matters is exercised by the British Court over British subjects and foreigners. The British Court has jurisdiction in probate and divorce matters where British subjects and foreigners are parties. In criminal cases British subjects and foreigners charged with an offence against the laws of Tonga, not including crimes punishable by death or by imprisonment exceeding two years, are amenable to the jurisdiction of the Courts of Tonga. The reserved cases are justiciable in the British Court.

The jurisdiction of the British Court is exercised in conformity with the provisions of the Pacific Order in Council, 1893. The principles of British law, so far as circumstances admit, are applied. The judicial work of the British Agent is light. During the year two criminal and nine civil cases were heard and determined. No grants of probate or letters of administration issued.

The Courts of the Tongan Government have full jurisdiction over Tongans and the limited jurisdiction stated above over British subjects and foreigners. The Tongan judicial system is based on the British model, and trial by jury, in cases where the accused are Tongans, is provided for in the Constitution.

The Justice Department of the Government of Tonga consists of the Chief Justice, who acts also as Land Judge and as European Magistrate, and three Tongan Magistrates. The Supreme Court exercises jurisdiction in all civil cases in which the amount claimed exceeds £50 and in all criminal cases where the maximum penalty exceeds a fine of £50 or two years' imprisonment; other cases are heard in the Magistrates' Courts. Where the person charged is a European the case is heard and determined in the European Magistrate's Court if it comes within magisterial jurisdiction; other cases are tried by the Chief Justice sitting with two European assessors.

The Land Court Judge, sitting with a Tongan assessor, hears and determines land claims.

Serious crime among the Tongan people is of infrequent occurrence.

The following table shows the number of indictments which have been tried by the Chief Justice during the last five years:—

Year.	*Number of Indictments.*	*Convictions.*
1932	... 36	26
1933	... 22	14
1934	... 33	27
1935	... 28	24
1936	... 48	38

The following table shows the number of criminal cases heard and determined in the Magistrates' Courts during the last five years:—

Year.	*Number of cases.*	*Convictions.*	*Acquittals.*
1932	3,361	2,263	868
1933	2,668	1,854	647
1934	3,334	2,274	821
1935	3,264	2,349	721
1936	3,362	2,421	727

Forty-one cases were committed for trial.

The majority of criminal cases heard in the Magistrates' Courts were for minor municipal and traffic offences.

The following table shows the number of convictions recorded during the last five years for the cases dealt with in the Magistrates' Courts other than municipal and traffic offences:—

Offence.	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
Theft	126	117	137	114	150
Trespass	4	23	44	33	77
Other offences against property	5	18	2	1	4
Assault	61	79	104	107	122
Fighting	12	16	31	34	25
Cruelty to animals ...	78	87	64	109	83

The various punishments imposed during the year in respect of the convictions in the Magistrates' Courts were as follows: fines, 2,220; imprisonment for non-payment of fines, 1,117; peremptory imprisonment, 157; whipping or whipping and imprisonment, 44.

There is a considerable amount of civil litigation among the Tongans. During the year four civil cases came before the Supreme Court and 2,340 actions were heard in the Magistrates' Courts.

There is an appeal from a Magistrate's decision to the Chief Justice in all civil cases and in every criminal case except when the defendant pleads guilty.

During the year the Chief Justice heard 31 appeals, 20 criminal and 11 civil. In the criminal appeals the sentences and fines imposed by the Magistrates were affirmed in 12 cases, six were remitted for rehearing, one was varied and one appeal was allowed. In the civil appeals the decisions of the Magistrates were upheld in six cases, a new trial was ordered in two cases, two cases were varied, and one appeal was allowed.

The Supreme Court heard nine cases in Divorce. Decrees absolute were granted in each case.

The Supreme Court in its probate jurisdiction granted letters of administration in 85 cases. The number of grants of probate or letters of administration which issued out of the Court during the last five years were as follows:—1932, 87; 1933, 97; 1934, 72; 1935, 67; and 1936, 85.

The total value of estates in 1936 was £8,331.

There are 20 Tongan lawyers practising in the Courts. Licences to practise are issued by the Chief Justice. There is no educational qualification imposed, but the Chief Justice has a discretionary power to refuse to issue a licence to undesirable persons.

Police.

The Police Department in in charge of a Tongan Minister who is also the Public Prosecutor. The Department has a strength of one European inspector, three Tongan inspectors, and 38 non-commissioned officers and men. The Tongan police, when called upon to do so, assist His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner's Court in making arrests and enforcing judgments.

The total expenditure of the force for all services was £4,136. The cost of the police per head of the population was 2s. 6d.

The number of persons prosecuted by the police for offences of all kinds during the last five years is as follows:—1932, 3,345; 1933, 2,531; 1934, 3,253; 1935, 2,942; 1936, 3,199. The great majority of these prosecutions were for offences of a trivial nature.

All traffic is controlled by the force, which carries out the registration of motor vehicles and the examination of drivers.

In addition to ordinary police duties the force is responsible for the inspection of villages and road frontages and the taking of the annual census.

Prisons.

The Minister of Police is in charge of the Prisons. There is a main gaol at Nukualofa with sub-gaols at Ha'apai, Vavau, and the two Niuas. There is also a sub-gaol on the Government Agricultural station at Vaikeli where prisoners grow foodstuffs for the Prison and Police Departments. Juvenile offenders are confined in the latter sub-gaol apart from adult prisoners. Crime among juveniles is very rare. All prisoners undergoing a sentence of over six months' imprisonment are confined in the Nukualofa gaol. The number of prisoners in custody on 1st January and 31st December in Nukualofa gaol was 57 and 105, respectively.

The main gaol at Nukualofa consists of two main wooden buildings, a women's gaol, and a hospital. There is no provision for the confinement of prisoners in separate cells.

The sub-gaols consist of small wooden buildings suitable for local requirements.

Prisoners are visited regularly by the Medical Officer. The health of prisoners throughout the year was satisfactory.

Prisoners may earn remission of sentence by industry accompanied by good conduct. The maximum remission for prisoners undergoing a first term of imprisonment is one-quarter of the sentence.

Orders for payments of fines made in the Magistrates' Courts are not enforced for 14 days after the making of the order.

If the law under which the order is made does not provide for imprisonment in default of payment a warrant of distress is then issued. In default of distress a warrant of commitment issues ordering a defendant to be imprisoned in respect of the sum still remaining unsatisfied by the distress for any term not exceeding the term specified in respect of a like sum in the scale of imprisonment provided in the Magistrates Act.

Provision is made in Tongan law for the probation of offenders when any person is convicted of an offence, and the Court is of opinion, having regard to the character, age, health or mental condition of the person charged, or to the trivial nature of the offence, or to the extenuating circumstances under which it was committed, that it is inexpedient to inflict any other than a nominal punishment, or that it is expedient to release the offender on probation, the Court may, in lieu of imposing a sentence of imprisonment, make an order discharging the offender conditionally on his entering into recognizance, with or without securities, to be of good behaviour and to appear for sentence when called upon at any time during such period not exceeding three years as may be specified in the order. When a probation order is made the Court is required to furnish the offender with a notice in writing stating in simple terms the conditions he is required to observe.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Fifteen Acts were passed at the 1936 Session of the Tongan Parliament. Important Acts were:—

The Treaty of Peace (Covenant of League of Nations) Acts, No. 1 and No. 2.—Applied economic sanctions against Italy.

The Savings Bank Act.—Follows the model ordinance drafted in 1935 by the Committee appointed by the Secretary of State to examine the Savings Banks systems in the Colonies.

The Dock Regulation Act.—Gives effect in Tonga to the Convention concerning the Protection against Accidents of Workers employed in Loading and Unloading Ships.

The Criminal Offences (Amendment) Act.—Brings local law into conformity with the International Convention for the suppression of Counterfeiting Currency.

The Education Films (Exemption from Duty) Act.—Enables the Convention for facilitating the International Circulation of Films of an Educational character to be applied to Tonga.

The other Acts and Regulations passed during the year call for no comment.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The Tongan financial year ends on 30th June. The revenue and expenditure totals for each of the last five years are as follows:—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1931-2	57,224	63,986
1932-3	64,072	60,347
1933-4	54,743	64,620
1934-5	61,654	55,515
1935-6	66,660	49,904

There is no public debt, and at the close of the last financial year the surplus funds amounted to £150,475 (Tongan Currency). These funds are invested in New Zealand, Australia, Straits Settlements, Uganda, Northern Rhodesia, Kenya and Nigeria Stock, and in fixed deposits with the Bank of New Zealand in Sydney and Auckland.

The main heads of taxation are the native tax, Customs dues, and trading licences.

The following table shows the yield of the Customs dues and native tax during the last five years:—

Year.	*Customs.*	*Native tax.*
	£	£
1931-2	20,496	9,491
1932-3	22,459	11,673
1933-4	20,181	9,437
1934-5	21,823	13,824
1935-6	25,710	13,401

The tariff was revised in 1933 so as to introduce preferential duties for goods of Empire origin. The general tariff is 20 per cent. *ad valorem*; the preferential rate is 12½ per cent. Specific duties are applied to a few articles.

The principal specific duties are as follows:—

Article.	*General Tariff.*	*British preferential Tariff.*
	s. d.	s. d.
Beer, per gal.	2 0	1 6
Benzine, per gal.	0 4	0 4
Cigarettes, per lb.	10 0	8 0
Flour, per 150 lb.	4 6	2 3
Kerosene of 150 degrees or over closed flash test, per gal.	0 3	0 3

Article.	*General Tariff.* s. d.	*British preferential Tariff.* s. d.
Spirits of all kinds, of which the strength can be ascertained by Sykes' hydrometer and which is proof or overproof—per proof gal. ...	34 0	28 0
Spirits of all kinds, of which the strength can be ascertained by Sykes' hydrometer and which is underproof—per liquid gal.	29 0	23 0
Sugar, per lb.	0 1	0 0½
Timber, undressed, per 100 sq. ft.	2 0	1 6
Timber, dressed, per 100 sq. ft.	2 6	2 0
Tobacco, manufactured, per lb.	7 0	5 0

The principal articles on the free list are:—
Bags, new, for copra.
Agricultural machinery and implements.
There is an export tax on copra of £1 per ton.
There are no excise duties.
The principal stamp duties on documents are:—

Agreement or memorandum of agreement (whether the same be evidence of a contract or obligatory upon the parties from its being a written document)—	
Where the value amounts to £1 but does not exceed £3	0 2
Where the value exceeds £3 but does not exceed £10	1 0
Where the value exceeds £10 then for every additional £10 and also for every part of £10 (but not to exceed 10s. on any such document)	2 0
Bill of lading and each copy	1 0
Bill of exchange—	
(1) Payable on demand or at sight or on presentation	0 2
(2) Payable otherwise than on demand, sight, or presentation, drawn or expressed to be payable in or actually paid or endorsed in any manner negotiated in the Kingdom.—	
For any sum not exceeding £50 ...	1 0

	s. d.
For every additional £50 and also for every fractional part of £50 ...	1 0
Promissory note of any kind (except a Bank note or Currency note)—	
For any sum not exceeding £5	0 2
Exceeding £5 but not exceeding £25 ...	0 6
For every additional £25 and also for every fractional part of £25	0 6
(Exemptions—All bills of exchange or promisory notes issued by any Bank for Government purposes to the Treasurer.)	
Lease or agreement for a lease or any written document for the tenancy or occupancy of any land or buildings—	
The following duties in respect of the rent at the rate per annum—	
Where the rent does not exceed £25	2 0
Where the rent exceeds £25 and does not exceed £50	5 0
Above £50, for every £50, and also for every fractional part of £50 ...	5 0
Conveyance or transfer—	
(1) Of any lease	5 0
(2) On sale of any goods whether included in a transfer of a lease or not for every £50 and also for every fractional part of £50	2 0
Mortgage, bond, debenture, or covenant—	
(1) Being the only or principal or primary security for the payment or repayment of any money not exceeding £50 ...	2 0
For every additional £50 and also for every fractional part of £50	2 0
(2) Transfer or assignment of any mortgage, bond, debenture, or covenant, and also where any further money is added to the money secured.	(The same rate of duty as (1).)
(3) Being a collateral, or auxiliary, or additional, or substituted security, or by way of further assurance for the above-mentioned purposes—	
Where the principal or primary security is duly stamped	2 0

	s.	d.
(4) Re-conveyance, release, or discharge of any such security as aforesaid or the benefit thereof, or of the money thereby secured	2	0
Receipt—		
Given for or upon the payment of money—		
Amounting to £2 or upwards but not exceeding £50	0	2
Exceeding £50 or upwards but not exceeding £100	0	4
Exceeding £100	0	6
(Exemptions—Receipts given for or upon the payment of money to or for the use of the Government of Tonga; receipts or discharges given by any person for the payment of wages or salary; receipts given for contributions for charitable institutions or religious bodies.)		

All male Tongans, when they attain the age of 16 years, pay a poll tax of 36s. per annum. The tax is paid in quarterly instalments. The yield of the tax during the last five years is set out above. A register of taxpayers is kept by the district tax clerk. This register is revised annually from a list of taxpayers prepared by the District Officer. The tax is paid to the district clerk by the taxpayer. Exemption from the tax may be granted on the grounds of old age or sickness.

There is no hut tax.

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Lands and Survey.

The Tongan land system is, in many respects, unique.

In historic times the Tongan lived on his farm rather than in village communities; the communal land ownership which is met with in parts of the Pacific is unknown in Tonga. In the eighteenth century the troubled condition of the land drove the peasant proprietors to take refuge together in fortresses, and out of these fortresses the modern village has grown. The remains of many old trenches exist to-day. Although the necessity for living together for purposes of mutual protection disappeared in the middle of last century, the people did not revert to their old mode of life and the town is now an accepted part of Tongan polity.

The historic system of land tenure was feudal. The great chiefs held of the King and they sub-divided their land among their followers. Through the chiefs the King received tribute and they in turn exacted feudal dues from the people. In the first Constitution of Tonga, granted by the King over 50 years ago, it was expressly enacted that the Kingdom was the King's. The King, however, confirmed in their ancestral holdings the high chiefs and out of the royal and chiefs' estates holdings were granted to the people. In course of time a grant which was made in return for service in cash or kind became the right of the people and a law was passed which entitled every Tongan, when he became a taxpayer, to two holdings, a house site in the village, and tax lands in the bush.

It is not possible, within the limits of this report, to develop further the evolution of the Tongan land system; it is felt, however, that a brief reference to the system of the past is necessary before the present system of tenure is shortly described.

Every Tongan male, when he attains the age of 16 and thereby becomes a taxpayer, is entitled to a tax allotment of 8¼ acres in the bush and a town site not exceeding 132 feet square. He obtains the grant upon application to the Minister of Lands. The Minister makes the allotment from the estate of the chief on which the applicant resides. If land is not available on such estate the allotment is made from the estate of another chief who is willing to provide it. If no allotment is made under this latter provision Crown land is utilized. If the applicant is already resident on Crown land, the allotment is made therefrom in the first place.

The rental for the tax allotment is 8s. per annum. It is paid to the Crown or the chief according to where the allotment is made. No rent is charged for the village site.

Provision is made in the law for ejectment for the non-payment of rent or for the non-compliance with the planting section of the law. It is mandatory on every holder, as an incident of tenure, within one year of the grant to plant 200 coconut trees on his allotment, properly spaced as provided by law. Provision is made for the survey and registration of grants. Upon the death of a holder his widow is entitled to a life estate in the allotment and devolution is expressly provided for. No Tongan may hold two tax allotments, but he may obtain a lease of an extra area.

Provision was made in 1927 to enable a Tongan to receive, upon application being made, in lieu of the grants referred to an area of 12⅜ acres of tax land in the bush for which he pays a rental of 4s. If he obtains such allotment, he is not eligible for a town site. It was hoped by reducing the rental and

increasing the area to induce the people to live on the land rather than in the village. It was also hoped that Tongans who live in congested islands would transfer to other islands where the larger areas at the reduced rentals were available. So far only 42 applications have been received for the 12⅜ acre blocks.

Provision was made in 1934 to permit the chiefs, provided the Executive considered there was sufficient land available for the grant of the ordinary tax allotments of 8¼ acres, to grant on application made an area of 15 acres, in lieu of the grants referred to above, to Tongans resident on their estates. This area is made up as follows:—

(*a*) a tax allotment of 8¼ acres;

(*b*) a town allotment of 1¾ acres;

(*c*) a leased area of five acres for a period of 50 years at a nominal rental.

Grants on this basis have been made on an estate of one of the chiefs. The advantage of the new system is that taxpayers would live on their farms.

Without the consent of the Executive no chief or allotment holder may grant a lease or make any agreement in respect of his land. The mortgaging of growing crops is illegal.

It is a curious fact that many Tongans do not take advantage of their statutory right to land. There is no compulsion to apply. At the present time, according to records available, allotments are held by 6,030 taxpayers and 723 widows; there are 2,484 taxpayers who have not applied for an allotment. These persons live in towns or on their fathers' cultivated allotments to which they hope in time to succeed.

In other cases there is a disinclination to leave an island which is fully settled. Ample land is available for a full development of the land system and if every taxpayer were an allotment-holder approximately one-half of the area of the country would still be available for distribution.

The interest of a Tongan in land, whether he is a chief or a commoner, is a life estate. His ownership is limited in point of disposition; it possesses certain attributes of an estate in fee tail which the holder for life cannot bar. The land system is of interest as being an example of a system granted by law upon the polity of a people and becoming a leading feature of that polity.

The survey work performed by the Government surveyors consisted in demarcating tax and town allotments. Lease and road surveys were also carried out. The number of European leases in Tonga is 1,683 of a total area of 7,772 acres. The majority of the leases, apart from residences in the towns, consist of store sites and the small trading stations of the large commercial houses.

APPENDIX A.

Meteorological Summary for the Year 1936.

Extremes and means for the year.

(Observations made at 2000 G.M.T.)

NUKUALOFA. (Lat. 21° 08′ S. Long. 175° 12′ W.)

Barometer :
Highest, 30·190 on 18th July.
Lowest, 29·420 on 6th February.
Mean, 29·929.

Humidity :
Highest, 99·0 per cent. on 7th January.
Lowest, 49·5 per cent. on 17th September.
Mean, 78·9 per cent.

Temperature :
Highest, 88·6° on 21st February.
Lowest, 53·0° on 5th September.
Mean, 74·2°.

Rainfall : 77·52 inches.

Number of days on which rain fell : 192.

Most rain in any 24-hour period : 3·34 inches on 16th December.

Cyclonic disturbances : Gales : 17–19th January, 6th February and 25th August.

17th to 19th January, 1936: Lowest barometer 29·67. Wind E. to E.N.E. Maximum velocity 46 m.p.h.

6th February, 1936. Lowest barometer 29·03. Wind S. to S.W., calm for half an hour then S.S.E. to S.E. by S. Maximum velocity 54 m.p.h.

25th August, 1936. Lowest barometer 29·67. Wind E. to N.E. Maximum velocity 46 m.p.h.

HA'APAI. (Lat. 19° 49′ S. Long. 174° 21′ W.)

Barometer :
Highest, 30·155 on 18th July.
Lowest, 29·331 on 7th February.
Mean, 29·923.

Humidity :
Highest, 96·0 per cent. on 30th January and 6th and 7th February.
Lowest, 54·7 per cent. on 3rd June.
Mean, 79·4 per cent.

Temperature :
Highest, 91·0° on 28th January.
Lowest, 59·3° on 5th September.
Mean, 77·5°.

Rainfall : 68·84 inches.

Number of days on which rain fell : 164.

Most rain in any 24-hour period : 5·55 inches on 1st April.

Cyclonic Disturbances : Gale : 6th–7th February.
Lowest barometer 29·22 inches. Wind S.W. by W. through west to N.W. Maximum velocity 46 m.p.h.

VAVAU. (Lat. 18° 39′ S. Long. 173° 59′ W.)

Barometer :
Highest, 30·113 on 7th June and 18th July.
Lowest, 29·142 on 7th February.
Mean, 29·916.

Humidity :
Highest, 99·5 per cent. on 21st March.
Lowest, 49·4 per cent. on 2nd September.
Mean, 77·6 per cent.

Temperature :
Highest, 89·0° on 16th and 18th March.
Lowest, 61·0° on 16th and 18th September.
Mean, 77·7°.

Rainfall : 76·18 inches.

Number of days on which rain fell : 216.

Most rain in any 24-hour period : 5·15 inches on 3rd October.

Cyclonic disturbances : Gale : 7th February.
Lowest barometer 29·105. Wind N. through west to S. Maximum velocity 40 m.p.h.

NIUATOBUTABU. (Lat. 15° 58′ S. Long. 173° 47′ W.)

Barometer :
Highest, 30·062 on 18th July.
Lowest, 29·081 on 18th January.
Mean, 29·884.

Humidity :
Highest, 99·0 per cent. on 3rd May, 15th July and 10th November.
Lowest, 59·6 per cent. on 17th September.
Mean, 81·4 per cent.

Temperature :
Highest, 90·2° on 24th March.
Lowest, 67·9° on 6th August.
Mean, 80·4°.

Rainfall : 84·83 inches.

Number of days on which rain fell : 174.

Most rain in any 24-hour period : 3·43 inches on 25th May.

Cyclonic disturbances : Hurricane : 18th January.
Lowest barometer 29·024. Wind S.E. through east to E.N.E. Maximum velocity 85 m.p.h.

NIUAFO'OU. (Lat. 15° 34′ S. Long. 173° 38′ W.)

Barometer :
Highest, 30·026 on 30th August.
Lowest, 29·506 on 7th February.
Mean, 29·866.

Humidity :
Highest, 98·5 per cent. on 3rd May.
Lowest, 62·5 per cent. on 27th June.
Mean, 82·2 per cent.

Temperature :

Highest, 91·5° on 30th March.

Lowest, 69·0° on 6th August and 16th September.

Mean, 80·9°.

Rainfall : 90·42 inches.

Number of days on which rain fell : 200.

Most rain in any 24-hour period : 5·30 inches on 28th December.

Cyclonic disturbances : Gale : 18th January.
Lowest barometer 29·428. Wind S. through west to N. Maximum velocity 39 m.p.h.

APPENDIX B.

Publications.

Mariner's Account of the Tonga Islands. J. Martin.	Murray. London.	1817.
Missionary Voyage of the Duff, commanded by Capt. James Wilson.	Chapman. London.	1799.
Account of a Voyage in search of La Perouse. J. J. de Labillardiere.	London.	1802.
Diversions of a Prime Minister, Sir B. H. Thomson.	Blackwood. London.	1894 (15*s.*).
Tongan Society. E. W. Gifford ...	Bishop Museum. Honolulu.	1929.
History and Geography of Tonga. A. H. Wood.	Government Printer. Tonga.	1932.
Annual Colonial Reports	H.M. Stationery Office.	

(44368—48) Wt. 982—3879 625 10/37 P. St. G. 377/7

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1935 [Colonial No. 126] £1 5s. (£1 5s. 8d.)

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa [Colonial No. 127–1] 3s. 0d. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific [Colonial No. 127–2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies [Colonial No. 127–3] 4s. 0d. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935.

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps [Colonial No. 111] £1. (£1 0s. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937 [Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE ROYAL COMMISSION

Report [Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index) [Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine [Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

PALESTINE

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Continued on page 3 of cover

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF TONGA FOR THE YEAR 1937

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I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Kingdom of Tonga consists of three main groups of islands called respectively Tongatabu, Ha'apai and Vavau, together with the outlying islands of Niuafoou, Niuatobutabu and Tafahi.

The main groups are situated between the 18th and 22nd degrees of South latitude and 173rd and 176th degrees of West longitude, and extend over an area of approximately 250 square miles.

The islands consist of two parallel chains running north and south. The western chain is volcanic in formation and the eastern corralline. With the exception of Tofua and Falcon islands the volcanoes are dormant or extinct.

The island of Niuatobutabu was discovered by the Dutch navigators Schouten and Lemaire in 1616. They did not visit the main groups.

In 1643 Tongatabu was discovered by Tasman, and from that year until 1767, when Wallis anchored in Niuatobutabu, there was no contact with the outside world. Captain Cook visited Tongatabu and the Ha'apai group in 1773 and again in 1777, and named the islands the Friendly Islands. In 1789 Captain Bligh visited the Ha'apai group. It was in the waters of this group that the mutiny of the *Bounty* occurred.

Niuafoou was discovered by Captain Edwards in H.M.S. *Pandora* in the year 1791.

Contact with the outside world was now established.

Climate.

The climate of the Tongan group from May to November is good for the tropics. The thermometer rarely registers higher than 80 degrees and the humidity during these months is, as a rule, relatively low. During the wet season, from December to April, the temperature rarely rises above 90 degrees, but the humidity, especially when the wind is northerly, is high. This season is trying for Europeans. The meteorological summary for the year is appended to this Report.

History.

The early history of Tonga is enshrouded in myth, and any attempt to reconstruct the past is based on the list of the Tui Tonga, the ancient kings. This list has been compiled by ethnologists and dates back to the 10th century. The extent of the dominions of these ancient kings is not clearly known, but there is evidence that they possessed overlordship over a vast area of Polynesia, whence they received tribute. The kingship was hereditary and the power of the Tui Tonga was absolute. About the 15th century, after the murder of a Tui Tonga, his successor, while retaining his sacred powers, divested himself of much of his executive authority, which he transferred to his brother, whom he henceforth called the Tui Haatakalaua. At this time it may be said that there were two kings in Tonga, the spiritual and the temporal. About the middle of the 17th century the temporal king transferred his executive power to a brother, retaining for himself the presentation of offerings from his people. The new chief was called the Tui Kanokupolu, and succession to the title, though not hereditary, was kept within the family. From the date of the creation of the new title the powers of the Tui Tonga and the Tui Haatakalaua gradually passed into the

hands of the Tui Kanokupolu and in the middle of the 19th century, upon the death of the then Tui Tonga, the insignia of the ancient title of the Tui Tonga were conferred upon the Tui Kanokupolu, King George I, the founder of the reigning dynasty. While the evolution of a sacred line of chiefs is not without historic parallel, the double delegation of powers renders difficult the true understanding of the ancient Tongan polity.

Evidence remains in modern Tonga of the power of the ancient kings in the form of the stone monuments which still exist. Chief of these is the Haamoga—a trilithon consisting of two large upright coral stones about 16 feet high, with a connecting stone, 19 feet long, laid horizontally across and mortised into the tops of the upright pieces, the visible parts of which are estimated to weigh between 30 and 40 tons. It was probably erected about the 13th century. Tradition is not consistent as to the reason which impelled the then Tui Tonga to erect this monument, but it is evidentiary of an absolute power. Its state of preservation is excellent. Other evidence of the powers of the ancient kings is to be found in the langis, the royal burial grounds which still exist in Tonga. They consist of quadrilateral mounds, faced by huge blocks of stone, rising sometimes in terraces to a height of 20 feet. The stones are coral, of immense weight, and can only have been placed in position by the concerted labour of a large body of men skilled in the use of rollers and levers. The stones out of which the monuments were constructed were probably quarried from the coral reefs, though there is a strong traditionary evidence that many of them came from distant Polynesian islands.

From the close of the 18th century the history of Tonga can be obtained from the chronicles of Europeans who visited the islands or from European missionary sources. During the first half of the 19th century the islands were the scene of civil wars. These were finally checked during the reign of King George I who had by conquest gathered all power in his own hands. He was finally proclaimed King in 1845. King George I came strongly under missionary influence and, though his rule was absolute, he determined to grant a Constitution, based on the English model, to the Tongans. This Constitution, granted over fifty years ago, has been from time to time amended, yet in essentials the present Constitution differs little from the original. King George died in 1893, at the age of ninety-six, after a memorable reign of nearly fifty years. He was the creator of modern Tonga. He was succeeded by his great-grandson, King George II. The present monarch, Queen Salote Tubou, D.B.E., succeeded to the throne on the death of her father King George II in 1918.

A Protectorate was proclaimed over Tonga in 1900 and a British Agent appointed.

The language of the group is Tongan, though the laws and Government *Gazettes* are published in both English and Tongan.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

Under the Constitution of Tonga the Government is divided into three bodies, the Queen, Privy Council, and Cabinet; the Legislative Assembly; and the Judiciary. The chief executive body is the Queen-in-Council, and executive decisions of lesser import are taken in Cabinet over which the Premier presides. The law-making power is vested in the Assembly which consists of the members of the Privy Council, seven nobles elected by their peers, and seven representatives elected by the people. Elections are held triennially. A limited law-making power is vested in the Privy Council; any legislation passed by the Executive is subject to review at the next meeting of the Legislature. At present the technical and financial departments are administered by European members of the Tongan civil service, and Tongan ministers control the other departments. The northern group of islands, Ha'apai and Vavau, together with the outlying islands are administered by Tongan Governors who are members of, and responsible to, the Executive. Minor Tongan officials perform statutory duties in connection with the village life of the people.

No constitutional changes took place during the year.

III.—POPULATION.

The Tongan population at the census taken in April, 1937, was 31,753. The increase in the population during the year ending April, 1937, was ·47 per cent., compared with 2·86 per cent. for 1936.

The Census figures for other races are as follows:—

Europeans	443
Half-castes	306
Other Pacific Islanders	296
Others	63

The incidence of the non-Tongan population has not varied appreciably during the last 10 years.

The average density of population for all races is 131·44 per square mile.

The following figures show the vital statistics of the Tongan population for the five years ending 31st December last:—

Year.	*Number of births.*	*Birth-rate. Per mille.*
1933	1,139	37·99
1934	1,191	38·88
1935	1,194	37·90
1936	1,230	38·21
1937	1,173	35·70

As regards the sexes of the children born the following table shows the proportion for the last five years:—

Year.	*Males.*	*Females.*
1933	1,228·9	1,000
1934	1,000·0	1,013·5
1935	1,027·1	1,000
1936	1,157·1	1,000
1937	1,094·6	1,000

The illegitimate births amounted to 227. The following table shows the proportion of illegitimate births to every 100 births during the last five years:—

Year.	*Percentage.*
1933	18·29
1934	17·96
1935	20·10
1936	20·30
1937	19·35

The following table shows the number of deaths and the death-rate for the last five years:—

Year.	*Number of Deaths.*	*Death-rate.*
1933	432	14·36
1934	430	14·03
1935	399	12·71
1936	529	16·25
1937	479	14·58

The following table shows the infant mortality rate for the last five years:—

Year.	*In per mille of Births.*
1933	75·60
1934	71·30
1935	91·60
1936	95·93
1937	100·59

The following table sets out the total number of marriages performed and the marriage rate for the last five years:—

Year.	*Total Number.*	*Rate per mille of Population.*
1933	227	7·58
1934	188	6·13
1935	229	7·11
1936	229	7·11
1937	295	8·79

The Chief Justice of Tonga is the Registrar-General of births, marriages, and deaths of Tongan subjects. Registration in the case of British subjects and foreigners is provided for under the provisions of the Pacific Order in Council, 1893, and Regulations made thereunder, and is effected at the office of the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

IV.—HEALTH.

The Medical Department of the Government of Tonga consists of two medical officers, a dentist, a European nurse, seven Tongan medical practitioners, one Tongan sanitary inspector and a Tongan subordinate staff. Five Tongan nurses are on the staff at Nukualofa Hospital. Three Tongan students are studying at the Central Medical School, Suva, Fiji.

The Tongans receive free medical attention. Other patients are charged fees on a scale laid down by the Executive. Fees are paid direct into revenue. The dentist receives a retaining fee from the Government. Tongans receive free treatment in cases of extractions and temporary stoppings. They are also treated freely for pyorrhoea, the incidence of which is heavy.

Provision was made for an expenditure of £7,609 on medical and health services. This sum is equivalent to 11·93 per cent. of the estimated revenue for the year. There are three hospitals in Tonga. The main hospital at Nukualofa is well equipped to meet the needs of the community. It consists of two European and four Tongan wards, two maternity wards, and a dispensary. The hospital has a portable X-ray outfit. The other hospitals are in Ha'apai and Vavau. They are suitable for local requirements.

Tonga is purely an agricultural country. There are no estates in the commonly accepted sense of the term. Reference to the system of land tenure is made below. In recording statistical information as to the prevalence of disease it follows that the figures refer only to the home life of the people and the question of disease caused by work in factories or mines does not arise.

Disease.	*Number of cases during the year.*
Tetanus	17
Leprosy	1
Conjunctivitis	439
Trachoma	194
Typhoid fever	244
Yaws	723
Dysentery	459
Tuberculosis	120
Pneumonia	64

Comparative figures of reported cases of typhoid are as follows:—

Year.	*Number of cases.*
1933	147
1934	142
1935	112
1936	206
1937	244

The disease is endemic. During the year a total of 500 prophylactic inoculations were given.

Comparative figures of reported cases of dysentery are as follows:—

Year.	*Number of cases.*
1933	59
1934	56
1935	46
1936	66
1937	459

There was a fairly severe epidemic of dysentery from March to August.

Most of the cases notified during the year were bacillary in character.

Comparative figures of reported cases of tuberculosis are as follows:—

Year.	*Number of cases.*
1933	230
1934	106
1935	131
1936	71
1937	120

Comparative figures of reported cases of yaws are as follows:—

Year.	*Number of cases.*
1933	663
1934	594
1935	988
1936	502
1937	723

A total of 784 B.S.T., 438 N.A.B. and 497 T.A.B. injections were given.

In December there was a sharp epidemic of influenza of a mild type.

The principal causes of death, when a member of the Medical Department was in attendance, were:—

	per cent.		*per cent.*
Tuberculosis	25·3	Malignant conditions	6·0
Enteric fever	20·5	Pneumonia	5·4
Cardiac disease	9·6	Tetanus	2·4
Dysentery	6·6	Meningitis	1·8
Septicaemia, etc.	6·0	Accident	1·8

The following is a summary of the work performed during the year by the medical staff at the three hospitals:—

	Nukualofa.	*Vavau.*	*Ha'apai*
Admissions	404	150	93
Major operations ...	38	17	52
Minor operations ...	183	304	207
Confinements	37	14	6
Out-patients:—			
Attendances	42,171	5,342	9,125
Visits	5,842	2,744	1,460

The figures for two dispensaries in Tongatabu are included in the out-patient department figures of Nukualofa hospital.

The following is a summary of the work performed by the Tongan staff at outlying dispensaries in Niuafoou, Niuatobutabu, Nomuka and Eua:—

Major operations	5
Minor operations	274
Intravenous injections for yaws	228
Attendances as out-patients	8,320
Visits	1,286
Confinements	53

The following is a summary of the work performed during the year by the Dental Department:—

Number of patients	1,438
Extractions	1,860
Fillings	178
Pyorrhoea cases treated	104

The Government dentist visited Vavau during the year.

The value of institutional treatment of maternity cases is becoming appreciated by the Tongans. There were 600 attendances at the ante-natal clinic at Nukualofa Hospital as compared with 170 in 1936 and mothers are encouraged to come to hospital for their confinements, as far as the limitation of space permits.

Fifty-seven maternity cases were attended in the hospitals and 240 cases were attended outside the hospitals by the medical staff.

Regular inspection of the villages in Tongatabu was carried out by the Sanitary Inspector. Each village was visited several times and considerable improvement in the sanitary condition was effected. Particular attention was paid to the disposal of rubbish. The necessity for the strict enforcement of sanitary measures was explained to the people and in most cases a good response was obtained. In other parts of the Kingdom periodic inspections were made by the Medical Officer or Tongan Medical Practitioner. The use of cement latrines of a standard pattern approved by the Board of Health is compulsory. There are no rivers or streams in Tonga and for drinking purposes rain water is conserved in cement tanks, in many cases the roofs of houses, or churches, serving as catchments. During periods of

drought many people may have to depend on well water. The village water tanks are subject to inspection by the Medical Authorities.

V.—HOUSING.

The Tongan native house is built with reed sides and thatched roof. It is illegal to build a house less than 12 ft. in length and proportionately broad. The average size, however, is approximately 20 ft. long and 12 ft. broad. The native kitchen is merely a shelter built apart from the dwelling house. Ordinary plots are used for cooking purposes, but on special occasions food is always prepared in a native oven. This consists of a pit about 3 ft. deep which is lined with stones. The stones are heated by means of a flue and the food—pork, fish, or fowl, and native root crops—is baked among the stones, which are covered with leaves and earth.

The Tongan in later years has shown a preference for the European style of house and, according to the census figures of 1937, approximately one-third of the houses are now of wooden construction with corrugated iron roofs. These cottages consist of one or more rooms and verandah. While they lack the picturesqueness of the native house they are easier to maintain. The tendency to prefer the European type of house is accentuated by the fact that the supply of wood and thatching materials suitable for house building is limited. Economic depression has, however, checked the substitution of the wooden house for the thatched cottage and the houses built in recent years are mostly of native construction. There is no housing problem in Tonga and a wage-earning class may be said not to exist, as the people are peasant proprietors. The houses are the property of the people. Legal provision is made for an annual inspection of houses and if any house is found to be in bad repair or badly drained it is lawful for the Tongan District Officer to order the owner to rebuild or provide proper drainage. Provision is also made for the weeding of the land around the houses and an inspection is made in the towns every two months to ensure that town sites are kept clean.

VI.—NATURAL RESOURCES.

Tonga is purely an agricultural country. The Tongan is a peasant proprietor and cultivates in person the area of land granted to him to which reference is made below. Most of the production is confined to Tongans. There are a few European leaseholds which produce copra but the quantity produced is comparatively negligible. All but a small proportion of the cultivable land may be said to be under cultivation in that it comes under the cycle of cultivation employed by the Tongan peasant. This cycle consists of one year's cultivation followed

by two or more years' rest to renew the fertility of the soil. Apart from the area permanently planted with coconuts approximately one-third of the area used for cultivation is actually under crop at any one time. There are no large areas of land awaiting development but production can be greatly increased in the future by the adoption of scientific methods of cultivation.

There are no forests of appreciable extent in Tonga and no minerals of any description have yet been discovered. There are no fisheries, mines or factories. The chief product of Tonga is copra.

The total production of copra is unknown but it is estimated that at least 20 per cent. of the crop is consumed locally. Coconuts are extensively used by the Tongans for cooking and drinking purposes and for feeding pigs and fowls. During periods of food shortage the percentage consumed locally materially increases. Other products are bananas, citrus fruits, pineapples, yams, sweet potatoes (kumaras), tapioca and taro, horses, cattle, pigs, goats and poultry. Apart from bananas, which are referred to below, there is no appreciable export trade in any of these products. Total production figures are not available, but there are estimated to be over 2½ million coconut palms. The numbers of different classes of livestock are as follows:—Horses, 4,866; cattle, 2,478; goats, 3,583; pigs, 18,060; poultry, 48,302.

Since 1932, bananas have been exported to New Zealand under a quota system instituted by the New Zealand Government. In 1933 Tonga was allotted 20 per cent. of the total Fiji-Tonga quota. The amount of the quota varied in the succeeding years in accordance with the demand in New Zealand. The Tonga quota for the year was 26,242 cases. Owing to the effects of a hurricane followed by a drought only 13,715 cases were shipped during the year. European vegetables are grown in small quantities for local consumption.

All lands in Tonga are the property of the Crown. From these lands certain areas are prescribed by law for the use of the Reigning Sovereign and of the Royal Family. Other areas are prescribed as hereditary estates of the Nobles and Matabules. The Sovereign may, with the consent of the Privy Council and subject to the provisions of the Land Act, grant from the Crown Lands hereditary estates to Nobles and Matabules. Every Tongan male on reaching the age of 16 years is entitled to receive a grant of 8¼ acres of land as a tax allotment and a residential site not exceeding one rood twenty-four perches as a town allotment. These allotments are granted by the Government either from Crown Lands or from the hereditary estates of the Nobles and Matabules. A grant of 12⅜ acres of agricultural land may be made in lieu of the tax and town allotments specified above. The holder of an allotment of 12⅜ acres pays

a rental of 4s. a year and the holder of a tax allotment pays a rental of 8s. a year to the holder of the hereditary estate, if the allotment is situated in an hereditary estate, or to the Government if the allotment is situated on Crown land. No rental is payable for town allotments. Allotments descend to the lineal heirs of the holder but on the death, without lineal descendants, of the holder, the allotments revert to the Crown or to the hereditary estate of the Noble or Matabule as the case may be. The holder of a tax or agricultural allotment may be dispossessed of his land for continual neglect to pay the rent or to cultivate the land. The sale of land is absolutely prohibited but leases may be granted, with the consent of the Cabinet, to Tongans and other nationals. The term of a lease may not exceed ninety-nine years.

Apart from a few European leaseholds all production is in the hands of Tongans and a few natives of other Pacific Islands who are settled in Tonga. Each Tongan cultivates in person his agricultural holding. Legislative provision exists for the planting, cultivation and inspection of holdings and for regulating and making of copra. To improve the grade of copra the Government has introduced a Malay kiln drier and eight of these kilns were in operation at the end of the year. The copra produced in these kilns fetched the highest local price. The kilns are inexpensive to build and operate and appear well suited to local conditions.

Production is organized only to the extent that each allotment holder is required by law to plant one-half of his allotment in coconuts, which must be 30 feet apart, and to plant sufficient food crops for the maintenance of himself and his dependants. Allotments are inspected by officers of the Agriculture Department and advice is given on planting and cultivation of crops. Owing to the quota system, to which reference is made above, all bananas for export are purchased from the individual growers and exported to New Zealand by the Government. Copra is sold by the individual growers to local merchants and exporters.

There are no associations or co-operative systems for the production or sale of produce.

The principal exports for the year were:—

	Quantity.	*Value.*
Copra	12,288 tons	£158,133
Bananas	13,715 cases	£4,128

VII.—COMMERCE.

Tonga produces copra, bananas, citrus and other fruits, vegetable food crops, milk, horses, cattle, pigs, goats, poultry, hides, fungus and, intermittently, bêche-de-mer. Of these products copra, bananas, hides, fungus, bêche-de-mer and a very small quantity of sweet potatoes (kumaras) are exported. Fish

are plentiful and are continuously used for food but there are no organized fisheries and no export trade. About 20 per cent. of the coconut crop, all bananas produced in excess of the export quota, and all other produce except hides, fungus, and bêche-de-mer are used or consumed locally. The principal exports are copra and bananas. During the year 12,288 tons of copra valued at £158,133 and 13,715 cases of bananas valued at £4,128 were exported. These two products represent 98·5 per cent. of the total value of exports for the year.

No timber, minerals, oils, or manufactured goods are produced in Tonga which is dependent on its imports for machinery, hardware, timber, drapery, cutlery, crockery, benzine, kerosene, lubricating oils, soap, spirits and beer, tobacco, sugar, flour, cordage, bags, tinned goods, coffee, tea, bacon, cheese, medical supplies and to a large extent, butter. The volume of the import trade is very largely governed by the value of the copra exported.

The following tables show the trade position of Tonga:—

Year.	*Total imports.*	*Domestic Exports.*	*Re-exports.*
	£	£	£
1933	86,007	109,149	798
1934	48,526	68,569	1,436
1935	68,782	89,092	819
1936	92,296	113,755	899
1937	137,365	162,931	1,690

The rise in the value of imports during the year was due to the comparatively high price of copra during the first half of the year. This led to increased importation by the commercial houses.

Comparative statement of total imports provided by the British Empire and foreign countries respectively with the principal supplying countries:—

IMPORTS.

Year.	*British Empire. per cent.*	*Foreign countries. per cent.*
1933	76·63	23·37
1934	81·22	18·78
1935	68·98	31·02
1936	76·26	23·74
1937	74·03	25·97

Country.	1933. *per cent.*	1934. *per cent.*	1935. *per cent.*	1936. *per cent.*	1937. *per cent.*
New Zealand	25·79	22·31	25·38	23·73	22·06
Australia	28·38	21·27	18·80	26·66	26·70
United Kingdom ...	12·97	17·43	11·71	14·36	15·51
India	1·33	10·73	5·62	5·97	3·98
Fiji	7·82	7·75	1·72	2·06	2·16
Canada	0·13	1·20	1·68	2·85	3·04
United States of America.	11·82	6·37	9·21	5·89	7·94
Japan	11·08	8·63	12·75	14·40	14·56

	s.	d.
Conveyance or transfer—		
(1) Of any lease	5	0
(2) On sale of any goods whether included in a transfer of a lease or not for every £50 and also for every fractional part of £50 ...	2	0
Mortgage, bond, debenture, or covenant—		
(1) Being the only or principal or primary security for the payment or repayment of any money not exceeding £50	2	0
For every additional £50 and also for every fractional part of £50	2	0
(2) Transfer or assignment of any mortgage, bond, debenture, or covenant, and also where any further money is added to the money secured	(The same rate of duty as (1).)	
(3) Being a collateral, or auxiliary, or additional, or substituted security, or by way of further assurance for the above-mentioned purposes :		
Where the principal or primary security is duly stamped	2	0
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Receipt—		
Given for or upon the payment of money—		
Amounting to £2 or upwards but not exceeding £50	2	
Exceeding £50 or upwards but not exceeding £100	4	
Exceeding £100	6	
(Exemptions—Receipts given for or upon the payment of money to or for the use of the Government of Tonga ; receipts or discharges given by any person for the payment of wages or salary ; receipts given for contributions for charitable institutions or religious bodies.)		

All male Tongans, when they attain the age of sixteen years, pay a poll tax of 36s. per annum. The tax is paid in quarterly instalments. The yield of the tax during the last five years is set out above. A register of taxpayers is kept by the district tax clerk. This register is revised annually from a list of taxpayers prepared by the District Officer. The tax is paid direct to the district clerk by the taxpayer. Exemption from the tax may be granted on the grounds of old age or sickness.

There is no hut tax.

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Lands and Survey.

The Tongan land system is, in many respects, unique.

In historic times the Tongan lived on his farm rather than in village communities; the communal land ownership which is met with in parts of the Pacific is unknown in Tonga. In the 18th century the troubled condition of the land drove the peasant proprietors to take refuge together in fortresses, and out of these fortresses the modern village has grown. The remains of many old trenches exist to-day. Although the necessity for living together for purposes of mutual protection disappeared in the middle of last century, the people did not revert to their old mode of life and the town is now an accepted part of Tongan polity.

The historic system of land tenure was feudal. The great chiefs held of the King and they sub-divided their land among their followers. Through the chiefs the King received tribute and they in turn exacted feudal dues from the people. In the first Constitution of Tonga, granted by the King over fifty years ago, it was expressly enacted that the Kingdom was the King's. The King, however, confirmed in their ancestral holdings the high chiefs and out of the royal and chiefs' estates holdings were granted to the people. In course of time a grant which was made in return for service in cash or kind became the right of the people and a law was passed which entitled every Tongan, when he became a taxpayer, to two holdings, a house site in the village, and tax lands in the bush.

It is not possible, within the limits of this report, to develop further the evolution of the Tongan land system; it is felt, however, that a brief reference to the system of the past is necessary before the present system of tenure is shortly described.

Every Tongan male, when he attains the age of sixteen and thereby becomes a taxpayer, is entitled to a tax allotment of $8\frac{1}{4}$ acres in the bush and a town site not exceeding 132 feet square. He obtains the grant upon application to the Minister of Lands. The Minister makes the allotment from the estate of the chief on which the applicant resides. If land is not available on such estate the allotment is made from the estate of another chief who is willing to provide it. If no allotment is made under this latter provision Crown land is utilized. If the applicant is already resident on Crown land, the allotment is made therefrom in the first place.

The rental for the tax allotment is 8s. per annum. It is paid to the Crown or the chief according to where the allotment is made. No rent is charged for the village site.

Provision is made in the law for ejectment for non-payment of rent or for non-compliance with the planting section of the law. It is mandatory on every holder, as an incident of tenure, within one year of the grant to plant 200 coconut trees on his allotment, properly spaced as provided by law. Provision is made for the survey and registration of grants. Upon the death of a holder his widow is entitled to a life estate in the allotment and devolution is expressly provided for. No Tongan may hold two tax allotments, but he may obtain a lease of an extra area.

Provision was made in 1927 to enable a Tongan to receive, upon application being made, in lieu of the grants referred to, an area of $12\frac{3}{8}$ acres of tax land in the bush for which he pays a rental of 4s. If he obtains such allotment, he is not eligible for a town site. It was hoped by reducing the rental and increasing the area to induce the people to live on the land rather than in the village. It was also hoped that Tongans who lived in congested islands would transfer to other islands where the larger areas at the reduced rentals were available. So far only twenty-three applications have been received for the $12\frac{3}{8}$ acre blocks.

Provision was made in 1934 to permit the chiefs, provided the Executive considered there was sufficient land available for the grant of the ordinary tax allotments of $8\frac{1}{4}$ acres, to grant on application made an area of 15 acres, in lieu of the grants referred to above, to Tongans resident on their estates. This area is made up as follows:—

(*a*) a tax allotment of $8\frac{1}{4}$ acres;

(*b*) a town allotment of $1\frac{3}{4}$ acres;

(*c*) a leased area of 5 acres for a period of 50 years at a nominal rental.

Grants on this basis have been made on an estate of one of the chiefs. The advantage of the new system is that taxpayers would live on their farms.

Without the consent of the Executive no chief or allotment holder may grant a lease or make any agreement in respect of his land. The mortgaging of growing crops is illegal.

It is a curious fact that many Tongans do not take advantage of their statutory right to land. There is no compulsion to apply. At the present time, according to records available, allotments are held by 6,194 taxpayers and 551 widows; there are 1,907 taxpayers who have not applied for an allotment. These persons live in towns or on their fathers' cultivated allotments to which they hope in time to succeed.

In other cases there is a disinclination to leave an island which is fully settled. Ample land is available for a full development of the land system and if every taxpayer were an allotment-holder

approximately one-half of the area of the country would still be available for distribution.

The interest of a Tongan in land, whether he is a chief or a commoner, is a life estate. His ownership is limited in point of disposition; it possesses certain attributes of an estate in fee tail which the holder for life cannot bar. The land system is of interest as being an example of a system grafted by law upon the polity of a people and becoming a leading feature of that polity.

The survey work performed by the Government surveyors consisted in demarcating tax and town allotments. Lease and road surveys were also carried out. The number of European leases in Tonga is 1,645 of a total area of 7,747 acres. The majority of the leases, apart from residences in the towns, consist of store sites and the small trading stations of the large commercial houses.

APPENDIX A.

Meteorological Summary for the Year 1934.

Extremes and means for the year.

NUKUALOFA. (Lat. 21-7-58·6 S. Long. 175-11-59·1 W.)

Barometer:
Highest, 30·212 on 5th August.
Lowest, 29·60 on 24th March.
Mean, 29·941

Humidity:
Highest, 98·5 per cent. on 5th June.
Lowest, 51·8 per cent. on 18th September.
Mean, 76·9 per cent.

Temperature:
Highest, 88·8° on 9th January.
Lowest, 54·9° on 1st September.
Mean, 74·4°

Rainfall: 56·88 inches.

Number of days on which rain fell: 171.

Most rain in any 24-hour period: 3·35 inches on 10th November.

Cyclonic Storms: Nil.

HA'APAI. (Lat. 19-48-31·25 S. Long. 174-20-55·8 W.)

Barometer:
Highest, 30·197 on 4th August.
Lowest, 29·45 on 24th March.
Mean, 29·942

Humidity:
Highest, 100 per cent. on 29th December.
Lowest, 52·1 per cent. on 19th September.
Mean, 76·8 per cent.

Temperature:
Highest, 91·9° on 24th January.
Lowest, 59·9° on 1st September.
Mean, 77·2°

Rainfall: 63·75 inches.

Number of days on which rain fell: 147.

Most rain in any 24-hour period: 2·71 inches on 16th September.

Cyclonic Storms: 24th March.
Lowest barometer 29·45. Wind E.S.E. through S. to S.W. Maximum velocity 38 m.p.h.

VAVAU. (Lat. 18-38-58 S. Long. 173-59-12 W.)

Barometer:
Highest, 30·124 on 5th August.
Lowest, 29·35 on 24th March.
Mean, 29·902

Humidity:
Highest, 95 per cent. on 23rd March.
Lowest, 55·6 per cent. on 27th April.
Mean, 77·8 per cent.

Temperature:
Highest, 89·2 °on 24th January.
Lowest, 58·9° on 21st July.
Mean, 77·5°

Rainfall: 74·71 inches.

Number of days on which rain fell: 176.

Most rain in any 24-hour period: 8·05 inches on 23rd March.

Cyclonic Storms: 23rd-24th March.
Lowest barometer 29·35. Wind E.N.E. through N. to W.S.W. Maximum velocity (in Neiafu) 32 m.p.h.

NIUATOBUTABU. (Lat. 15-57-32 S. Long. 173-46-33 W.)

Barometer:
Highest, 30·060 on 5th August.
Lowest, 28·679 on 28th December.
Mean, 29·891

Humidity:
Highest, 100 per cent. on 28th December.
Lowest, 60·6 per cent. on 22nd August.
Mean, 78·6 per cent.

Temperature:
Highest, 90·6° on 11th February.
Lowest, 65·0° on 26th April.
Mean, 80°

Rainfall: 108·57 inches.

Number of days on which rain fell: 203.

Most rain in any 24-hour period: 4·93 inches on 21st March.

Cyclonic Storms: 28th December.
Lowest barometer 28·679. Wind veered from E.N.E. to N., followed by calm for half an hour whilst centre passing over island, then from S. and died out W. Maximum velocity of wind 68 m.p.h.

NIUAFOOU. (Lat. 15-33-55 S. Long. 175-37-55 W.)

Barometer:
Highest, 30·035 on 3rd October.
Lowest, 29·142 on 28th December.
Mean, 29·877

Humidity:
Highest, 100 per cent. on 24th February.
Lowest, 63·5 per cent. on 24th August.
Mean, 84·9 per cent.

Temperature:
Highest, 90·2° on 22nd January and 19th February.
Lowest, 67·0° on 26th April.
Mean, 80·0°

Rainfall: 139·40 inches.

Number of days on which rain fell: 226.

Most rain in any 24-hour period: 8·29 inches on 28th December.

Cyclonic Storms: 28th December.
Lowest barometer 29·142. Wind S. through S.E. to E.S.E. Maximum velocity 68 m.p.h.

APPENDIX B.

Publications.

Mariner's Account of the Tonga Islands. J. Martin.	Murray. London. 1817.
Missionary Voyage of the *Duff*, commanded by Capt. James Wilson.	Chapman. London. 1799.
Account of a voyage in search of La Perouse. J. J. de Labillardière.	London. 1802.
Diversions of a Prime Minister. Sir B. H. Thomson.	Blackwood. London. 1894. (15s.)
Tongan Society. E. W. Gifford	Bishop Museum. Honolulu. 1929.
History and Geography of Tonga. A. H. Wood.	Government Printer. Tonga. 1932.
Annual Colonial Report	H.M. Stationery Office. London. (1s.)

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Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

MIGRATION.

Report to the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Migration Policy. [Cmd. 4689.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*)

MALTA.

Report of Royal Commission, 1931. [Cmd. 3993.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 11*d.*).
Minutes of Evidence. [Colonial No. 68.] 5*s.* (5*s.* 9*d.*).

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Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3718.] 4*s.* (4*s.* 4*d.*).
Report of the Conference on Standardisation. (Including Resolutions adopted by the Imperial Conference). [Cmd. 3716.] 3*d.* (3½*d.*).

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1930.

Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3628.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3629.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).

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Native Affairs Department Annual Report for 1932. 3*s.* (3*s.* 4d.).
Report by the Financial Commissioner (Lord Moyne) on Certain Questions in Kenya. May, 1932. [Cmd. 4093.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

KENYA, UGANDA, AND THE TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Railway Rates and Finance. Report by Mr. Roger Gibb, September, 1932. [Cmd. 4235.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 7*d.*).

TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission. [Cmd. 4182.] 2*s.* 6*d.* (2*s.* 8*d.*).
East African Agricultural Research Station, Amani. Sixth Annual Report, 1933-34. [Colonial No. 100.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

Financial and Economic Position. Report of Commission, March, 1933. [Cmd. 4368.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 9*d.*).

SWAZILAND.

Financial and Economic Situation. Report of Commission. [Cmd. 4114.] 2*s.* 6*d.* (2*s.* 9*d.*).

MALAYA.

Report of Brigadier-General Sir S. H. Wilson, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.B.E., on his visit during 1932. [Cmd. 4276.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

SEYCHELLES.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, July, 1933. [Colonial No. 90.] 1*s.* 3*d.* (1*s.* 5*d.*).

MAURITIUS.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, December, 1931. [Cmd. 4034.] 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 10*d.*).

WEST INDIES.

Report of the Closer Union Commission. (Leeward Islands, Windward Islands, Trinidad and Tobago.) [Cmd. 4383.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).
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Financial Situation. Report of Commission, June, 1931. [Cmd. 3938.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

THE LEEWARD ISLANDS AND ST. LUCIA.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission, October, 1931. [Cmd. 3996.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

PALESTINE.

Report on Immigration, Land Settlement and Development, by Sir John Hope Simpson, C.I.E., 1930. [Cmd. 3686.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).
Appendix to Report, containing Maps. [Cmd. 3687.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 3*d.*).

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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF TONGA FOR THE YEAR 1935

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I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Kingdom of Tonga consists of three main groups of islands called respectively Tongatabu, Ha'apai and Vavau, together with the outlying islands of Niuafoou, Niuatobutabu and Tafahi.

The main groups are situated between the 18th and 22nd degrees of south latitude and the 173rd and 176th degrees of west longitude, and extend over an area of approximately 250 square miles.

The islands consist of two parallel chains running north and south. The western chain is volcanic in formation and the eastern coralline. With the exception of Tofua and Falcon islands the volcanoes are dormant or extinct.

The island of Niutobutabu was discovered by the Dutch navigators Schouten and Lemaire in 1616. They did not visit the main groups.

In 1643 Tongatabu was discovered by Tasman, and from that year until 1767, when Wallis anchored in Niuatobutabu, there was no contact with the outside world. Captain Cook visited Tongatabu and the Ha'apai group in 1773 and again in 1777, and named the islands the Friendly Islands. In 1789 Captain Bligh visited the Ha'apai group. It was in the waters of this group that the mutiny of the *Bounty* occurred.

Niuafoou was discovered by Captain Edwards in H.M.S. *Pandora* in the year 1791.

Contact with the outside world was now established.

Climate.

The climate of the Tongan group from May to November is good for the tropics. The thermometer rarely registers higher than 80 degrees and the humidity during these months is, as a rule, relatively low. During the wet season, from December to April, the temperature rarely rises above 90 degrees, but the humidity, especially when the wind is northerly, is high. This season is trying for Europeans. The meteorological summary for the year is appended to this Report.

History.

The early history of Tonga is enshrouded in myth, and any attempt to reconstruct the past is based on the list of the Tui Tonga, the ancient kings. This list has been compiled by ethnologists and dates back to the 10th century. The extent of the dominions of these ancient kings is not clearly known, but there is evidence that they possessed overlordship over a vast area of Polynesia, whence they received tribute. The kingship was hereditary and the power of the Tui Tonga was absolute. About the 15th century, after the murder of a Tui Tonga, his successor, while retaining his sacred powers, divested himself of much of his executive authority, which he transferred to his brother, whom he henceforth called the Tui Haatakalaua. At this time it may be said that there were two kings in Tonga, the spiritual and the temporal. About the middle of the 17th century the temporal king transferred his executive power to a brother, retaining for himself the presentation of offerings from his people. The new chief was called the Tui Kanokupolu, and succession to the title, though not hereditary, was kept within the family. From the date of the creation of the

new title the powers of the Tui Tonga and the Tui Haatakalaua gradually passed into the hands of the Tui Kanokupolu and in the middle of the 19th century, upon the death of the then Tui Tonga, the insignia of the ancient title of the Tui Tonga were conferred upon the Tui Kanokupolu, King George I, the founder of the reigning dynasty. While the evolution of a sacred line of chiefs is not without historic parallel, the double delegation of powers renders difficult the true understanding of the ancient Tongan polity.

Evidence remains in modern Tonga of the power of the ancient kings in the form of the stone monuments which still exist. Chief of these is the Haamoga— a trilithon consisting of two large upright coral stones about 16 ft. high, with a connecting stone, 19 ft. long, laid horizontally across and mortised into the tops of the upright pieces, the visible parts of which are estimated to weigh between 30 and 40 tons. It was probably erected about the 13th century. Tradition is not consistent as to the reason which impelled the then Tui Tonga to erect this monument, but it is evidentiary of an absolute power. Its state of preservation is excellent. Other evidence of the powers of the ancient kings is to be found in the langis, the royal burial grounds which still exist in Tonga. They consist of quadrilatoral mounds, faced by huge blocks of stone, rising sometimes in terraces to a height of 20 ft. The stones are coral, of immense weight, and can only have been placed in position by the concerted labour of a large body of men skilled in the use of rollers and levers. The stones out of which the monuments were constructed were probably quarried from the coral reefs, though there is a strong traditionary evidence that many of them came from distant Polynesian islands.

From the close of the 18th century the history of Tonga can be obtained from the chronicles of Europeans who visited the islands or from European missionary sources. During the first half of the 19th century the islands were the scene of civil wars. These were finally checked during the reign of King George I who had by conquest gathered all power into his own hands. He was finally proclaimed King in 1845. King George I came strongly under missionary influence and, though his rule was absolute, he determined to grant a Constitution, based on the English model, to the Tongans. This Constitution, granted over 50 years ago, has been from time to time amended, yet in essentials the present Constitution differs little from the original. King George died in 1893, at the age of 96, after a memorable reign of nearly 50 years. He was the creator of modern Tonga. He was succeeded by his great-grandson, King George II. The present monarch, Queen Salote Tubou, D.B.E., succeeded to the throne on the death of her father King George Tubou II in 1918.

A Protectorate was proclaimed over Tonga in 1900 and a British Agent appointed.

The language of the group is Tongan, though the laws and Government *Gazettes* are published in both English and Tongan.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

Under the Constitution of Tonga the Government is divided into three bodies, the Queen, Privy Council, and Cabinet; the Legislative Assembly; and the Judiciary. The chief executive body is the Queen-in-Council, and executive decisions of lesser import are taken in Cabinet over which the Premier presides. The law-making power is vested in the Assembly which consists of the members of the Privy Council, seven nobles elected by their peers, and seven representatives elected by the people. Elections are held triennially. A limited law-making power is vested in the Privy Council; any legislation passed by the Executive is subject to review at the next meeting of the Legislature. At present the technical and financial departments are administered by European members of the Tongan civil service, and Tongan ministers control the other departments. The northern group of islands, Haapai and Vavau, together with the outlying islands are administered by Tongan Governors who are members of, and responsible to, the Executive. Minor Tongan officials perform statutory duties in connection with the village life of the people.

No constitutional changes took place during the year.

III.—POPULATION.

The Tongan population at the census taken in April, 1935, was 30,724. The increase in the population during the year ending April, 1935, was ·80 per cent., compared with 2·91 per cent. for 1934.

The figures for other races are as follows:—

Europeans	**434**
Half-castes	**352**
Other Pacific Islanders	**229**
Others	**134**

The incidence of the non-Tongan population has not varied appreciably during the last ten years.

The average density of population for all races is 127·49 per square mile.

The following figures show the vital statistics of the Tongan population for the five years ending 31st December last:—

Year.	*Number of Births.*	*Birth-rate. per mille*
1931	**1,145**	**40·30**
1932	**1,180**	**40·47**
1933	**1,139**	**37·99**
1934	**1,191**	**38·88**
1935	**1,194**	**37·90**

As regards the sexes of the children born the following table shows the proportion for the last five years:—

Year.	*Males.*	*Females.*
1931	1,014·1	1,000
1932	1,156·6	1,000
1933	1,228·9	1,000
1934	1,000·0	1,013·5
1935	1,027·1	1,000

The illegitimate births amounted to 240. The following table shows the proportion of illegitimate births to every 100 births during the last five years:—

Year.	*Percentage.*
1931	17·53
1932	15·42
1933	18·29
1934	17·96
1935	20·10

The following table shows the number of deaths and the death-rate for the last five years:—

Year.	*Number of Deaths.*	*Death-rate.*
1931	430	15·08
1932	417	14·64
1933	432	14·36
1934	430	14·03
1935	399	12·71

The following table shows the infant mortality rate for the last five years:—

Year.	*In per mille of births.*
1931	62·80
1932	74·50
1933	75·60
1934	71·30
1935	91·60

The following table sets out the total number of marriages performed and the marriage rate for the last five years:—

Year.	*Total Number.*	*Rate per mille of population.*
1931	228	7·52
1932	243	8·02
1933	227	7·58
1934	188	6·13
1935	229	7·11

The Chief Justice of Tonga is the Registrar-General of births, marriages, and deaths of Tongan subjects. Registration in the case of British subjects and foreigners is provided for under the provisions of the Pacific Order in Council, 1893, and Regulations made thereunder, and is effected at the office of the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

IV.—HEALTH.

The Medical Department of the Government of Tonga consists of three medical officers, a dentist, a European nurse, four Tongan medical practitioners and a Tongan subordinate staff. Three Tongan nurses are on the staff at Nukualofa Hospital. Four Tongan students are studying at the Central Medical School, Suva, Fiji.

The Tongans receive free medical attention. Other patients are charged fees on a scale laid down by the Executive. Fees are paid direct into revenue. The dentist receives a retaining fee from the Government. Tongans receive free treatment in cases of extractions and temporary stoppings. They are also treated freely for pyorrhoea, the incidence of which is heavy.

Provision was made for an expenditure of £7,311 on medical and health services. This sum is equivalent to 13·88 per cent. of the estimated revenue for the year. There are three hospitals in Tonga. The main hospital at Nukualofa is well equipped to meet the needs of the community. It consists of European and Tongan wards, three maternity wards, in separate buildings, and a dispensary. A portable X-ray outfit was obtained during the year. The other hospitals are in Ha'apai and Vavau. They are suitable for local requirements.

Tonga is purely an agricultural country. There are no estates in the commonly accepted sense of the term. Reference to the system of land tenure is made below. In recording statistical information as to the prevalence of disease it follows that the figures refer only to the home life of the people and the question of disease caused by work in factories or mines does not arise.

Disease.	*Number of cases during the year.*
Filariasis	1,330
Tetanus	8
Leprosy	3
Conjunctivitis	638
Trachoma	93
Typhoid fever	112
Yaws	988
Dysentery	46
Tuberculosis	131
Pneumonia	25

Comparative figures of reported cases of typhoid are as follows :—

Year.	*Number of cases.*
1931	158
1932	165
1933	147
1934	142
1935	112

The disease is endemic. During the year a total of 610 prophylactic inoculations were given.

Comparative figures of reported cases of dysentery are as follows :—

Year.	*Number of cases.*
1931	24
1932	12
1933	59
1934	56
1935	46

Most of the cases notified during the year were bacillary in character.

Comparative figures of reported cases of tuberculosis are as follows :—

Year.	*Number of cases.*
1931	308
1932	256
1933	230
1934	106
1935	131

This disease is by far the commonest cause of death ; out of 203 patients attended by the Medical Department and subsequently dying, 57 died from some form of tuberculosis.

Comparative figures of reported cases of yaws are as follows :—

Year.	*Number of cases.*
1931	511
1932	575
1933	663
1934	594
1935	988

A total of 1,733 B.S.T. and 818 N.A.B. injections were given.

The principal causes of death, when a member of the Medical Department was in attendance, were :—

	Per cent.		Per cent.
Tuberculosis ...	28·0	Gastro-intestinal ...	8·3
Cardiac disease ...	5·4	Tetanus	·9
Typhoid fever ...	5·9	Nervous diseases ...	2·9
Filariasis	4·9	Influenza	1·9
Senility	6·8	Parturition	2·4
Cancer	4·9	Traumatic	3·9
Pneumonia... ...	8·8	Respiratory ...	1·4
Septic conditions ...	3·4		

The following is a summary of the work performed during the year by the medical staff at the three hospitals :—

	Nukualofa.	*Vavau.*	*Ha'apai.*
Admissions ...	217	206	27
Major operations ...	146	106	19
Minor operations ...	670	581	191
Outpatients :—			
Attendances ...	27,787	23,215	10,280
Visits	2,683	2,867	1,103
Anaesthetics ...	421	432	223
Confinements ...	31	58	16
Sanitary inspections	404	130	—

The following is a summary of the work performed by the Tongan staff at outlying dispensaries :—

Minor operations	1,248
Intravenous injections for yaws ...	581
Intramuscular injections for yaws...	27
Attendances as out-patients ...	35,510
New patients	1,660
Visits	8,354
T. A. B. inoculations	464
Confinements	155

The following is a summary of the work performed during the year by the Dental Department :—

Number of patients	1,350
Extractions	1,829
Fillings	378
Pyorrhœa cases treated ...	120

The Government dentist visited the northern islands of the group during the year.

The value of institutional treatment of maternity cases is becoming appreciated by the Tongans. There were 183 attendances at the ante-natal clinic at Nukualofa Hospital and mothers are encouraged to come to hospital for their confinements, as far as the limitation of space permits. An infant welfare clinic has also been established. There were 176 attendances during the year. Free supplies of food for infants, when necessary, are provided.

As regards sanitation, the work of erecting cement latrines has been completed and the use of a standard pattern approved by the Board of Health is compulsory. Progress, though slow, is being made in the construction of cement tanks for water conservation and in the repairs of existing village tanks. In the past many large tanks were built in Tonga with no catchment area except their own roofs. The village churches afford excellent catchment but there was a repugnance among the Tongans to use the church roof for this purpose. This antipathy has now disappeared. There are no rivers or streams in Tonga and it is essential, in the interest of the public health, that a complete system of rain-water conservation tanks be installed. As a prevention against typhoid and dysentery the necessity of an unpolluted supply of drinking water is apparent. During periods of drought the people are frequently dependent on well-water for general domestic purposes.

V.—HOUSING.

The Tongan native house is built with reed sides and thatched roof. It is illegal to build a house less than twelve feet in length and proportionately broad. The average size, however, is approximately 20 ft. long and 12 ft. broad. The native kitchen is merely a shelter built apart from the dwelling house. Ordinary pots are used for cooking purposes, but on special occasions food is always prepared in a native oven. This consists of a pit about 3 ft. deep which is lined with stones. The stones are heated by means of a flue and the food—pork, fish, or fowl, and native root crops—is baked among the stones, which are covered with leaves and earth.

The Tongan in later years has shown a preference for the European style of house and, according to the census figures of 1935, approximately one-third of the houses are now of wooden construction with corrugated iron roof. These cottages consist of one or more rooms and verandah. While they lack the picturesqueness of the native house they are easier to maintain. The tendency to prefer the European type of house is accentuated by the fact that the supply of wood and thatching materials suitable for house building is limited. Economic depression has, however, checked the substitution of the thatched cottage by the wooden house and the houses built in recent years are mostly of native construction. There is no housing problem in Tonga and a wage-earning class may be said not to exist, as the people are peasant proprietors. The houses are the property of the people. Legal provision is made for an annual inspection of houses and if any house is found to be in bad repair or badly drained it is lawful for the Tongan District Officer to order the owner to rebuild or provide proper drainage. Provision is also made for the weeding of the land around the houses and an inspection is made in the towns every two months to ensure that town sites are kept clean.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Tonga is purely an agricultural country. The chief crop is copra and production is almost entirely confined to the Tongans. There are a few European leaseholds but the percentage of copra exported by European planters is negligible. The Tongan is a peasant proprietor and cultivates in person his statutory area of 8¼ acres to which reference is made below. Plantation labour, in the ordinary sense of the term, does not therefore exist. Approximately 20 per cent. of the coconut crop is consumed locally. It is used for cooking and drinking purposes, or for feeding pigs and fowls. The average annual value of the copra crop exported during the past five years has been £81,512. Every Tongan taxpayer is an actual or potential copra producer. There are at present 8,282 taxpayers. European influence has not, in the past, speaking generally, had any material influence on the method of copra production by the Tongan. In modern times legislation has been passed to provide for the proper spacing of newly-planted trees, and it is now an incident of the tenure of the 8¼ acre allotment of a Tongan that one-half of the area should be planted with coconut trees in rows, and so arranged that the trees are 30 ft. apart. The legislation further provides for the weeding and inspection of allotments. The Tongan cultivator in the past planted his coconut trees closely together and it is difficult to persuade the ordinary farmer that a thinning out of over-planted areas will result in an increased crop. Legislative provision was made in 1926 having for its object the improvement in the quality of the copra exported, and it is an offence for a trader to have in his possession bad or damaged copra. During the year provision was made in an amending Act to ensure that traders had proper drying platforms for copra.

Prior to the War there was a considerable trade with New Zealand in bananas and citrus fruits, but the absence of direct communication with the Dominion, which ceased during the War, killed the trade. During the year 1931 satisfactory transport arrangements were made and banana production for export purposes recommenced. The first shipment of fruit was made in December, 1931. In 1932 exports amounted to 47,659 cases valued at £10,452. In 1933 exports amounted to 17,098 cases valued at £3,782. The banana industry received a severe set-back in 1933, as a result of the severe gales experienced towards the latter part of February, when practically all the tall varieties of bananas were laid flat and others severely damaged. In 1932 an arrangement was concluded with His Majesty's Government in New Zealand alloting a quota share of the Dominion banana market to Fiji and Tonga. The combined quota for the two administrations was fixed at 12,000

cases from May to September and 15,000 cases from October to April. The Tongan share of the quota was subsequently fixed at 20 per cent. of the total Fiji-Tonga quota, and Tonga commenced shipments on this basis in January, 1933. In 1934, owing to lack of shipping, it was only possible to send nine shipments, amounting to 26,402 cases, valued at £6,907, to the Dominion. In 1935 the combined quota was reduced and the Tongan share of the quota was fixed at 1,900 cases in May, 2,500 from June to September, and 2,400 from October to April. During the year, 29,793 cases were shipped, valued at £8,352. Approximately 1,100 cases were shipped in excess of the quota; this amount represents transfers from other administrations who had short-shipped their quota to the Dominion during the four weekly quota periods. The Tongan does not use the ordinary banana, to any degree, as a food stuff and fruit production over market requirements would be used as feeding-stuff for pigs.

In addition to bananas small shipments of pineapples and kumaras (sweet potatoes), of an approximate value of £537, were shipped to New Zealand. Bêche-de-mer to the value of £934 was shipped to Hong Kong.

The main vegetable food of the Tongan consists of yams, taro, kumaras, and plantains. The approximate area under root crops is 8,000 acres. These crops are grown for local consumption only and it would be impossible to form any accurate estimate of their value.

The soil throughout the group is very fertile and in Tongatabu European vegetables of most summer varieties are easily grown except during the hot months of December to April. They are cultivated chiefly for local consumption by Europeans. The amount produced is limited by the extent of the available market.

Livestock production is confined, in general, to pigs, cattle, and goats. There is no export of livestock.

There are approximately 22,986 pigs in the group. They are used as a foodstuff by the Tongans and on ceremonial occasions they form an important part of the feast.

Cattle are limited in number and owned chiefly by Europeans. The younger Tongan is showing a tendency to keep cows. This, however, is a modern development due to contact with Europeans.

The Tongan does not as a rule sell his pigs and it would be difficult therefore to form an estimate of their value. The number of goats, according to the census figure for the year, is 3,539.

There is no mineral production in Tonga.

There are no fisheries.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The following table shows the value of the import and export trade during the last five years:—

Year.	*Imports.*	*Exports.*
	£	£
1931	81,170	90,596
1932	86,006	96,163
1933	86,007	114,447
1934	48,526	77,842
1935	68,782	90,711

The export trade during the year was confined almost entirely to copra, bananas, and a small amount of bêche-de-mer. Copra is exported on optional bills of lading, and is mostly sold on the Continent of Europe. The quantity and value of copra exported during the last five years are as follows:—

Year.	*Tons.*	*Value.*
		£
1931	8,929	80,361
1932	8,323	83,228
1933	11,397	105,028
1934	10,154	59,941
1935	12,039	79,003

The principal imports, apart from drapery, benzine and kerosene, were of Empire origin. The following table shows the countries of origin and value of imports from these countries during the last five years:—

Country of origin.	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*		*1935.*	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
New Zealand ...	33,246	29,743	22,343	10,826	(15,720)	16,079	(20,122)
Australia	22,766	28,759	24,410	10,325	(14,451)	12,932	(71,663)
United Kingdom ...	9,303	10,495	11,155	8,295	(4,897)	10,159	(7,763)
India	—	—	1,144	5,208	(138)	4,874	(—)
Fiji...	5,896	5,026	6,734	3,765	(6,528)	1,499	(4,445)
Other British Territories	327	84	118	1,008	(123)	1,898	(610)
United States of America ...	7,377	5,224	10,172	3,090	(2,297)	7,990	(7,073)
Japan	1,829	6,475	9,528	4,187	(3,636)	11,069	(10,000)
Other Foreign Countries ...	420	199	395	1,822	(731)	2,282	(1,107)

Before 1934 imports were classified by the Customs Department of the Government of Tonga according to the country of origin. The term was used loosely; the classification was more strictly a classification according to the country from which the goods were consigned. In 1934 and 1935 goods have been classified both in accordance with country of origin and country of consignment. The statistics given show in brackets for the years 1934 and 1935 classification according to the method employed before 1934.

The details and value of principal imports during the last five years are as follows :—

General Description.	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Bags, gunny	2,798	5,959	7,076	5,164	4,754
Beer	1,092	1,098	1,176	857	650
Benzine	2,436	2,373	3,440	1,086	2,825
Biscuits	1,451	1,011	1,079	569	691
Butter	1,636	1,273	957	634	853
Cigars and cigarettes ...	325	388	407	272	325
Cordage and rope	716	830	1,164	466	1,002
Drapery	13,345	16,185	15,345	5,356	13,219
Flour	8,252	4,990	5,595	2,534	4,773
Galvanized ware	1,017	1,224	1,293	494	1,369
Hardware	3,343	2,636	2,801	1,169	1,113
Meats, tinned	10,508	10,091	9,369	4,650	7,639
Motor cars and parts ...	767	447	1,130	724	1,431
Soap	1,454	1,646	1,675	1,416	1,739
Spirits	1,186	867	1,141	1,206	402
Sugar	3,349	2,392	2,548	1,742	1,948
Tobacco	1,029	1,292	1,705	1,073	1,451
Timber	1,519	367	2,773	305	914

The rise in the value of imports during the year is accounted for by the improved condition of the copra market. The Tongan is a free spender and the commercial houses, who had been carrying light stocks, imported more freely than they had done for a considerable period.

Imports from the United Kingdom showed a slight improvement but the adverse exchange position (Tongan currency is on the Australian basis) and the importation of cheap foreign draperies seriously affects a material improvement. Imports from the United Kingdom consist chiefly of hardware, soft goods, drugs and medical supplies.

During the year drapery imports from the United Kingdom were valued at £2,450 as against £9,739 from Japan.

The market for the British light car is limited. Benzine is retailed at 2s. per gallon and the advantages of the low horse-powered car in the matter of running expenses are obvious. At the end of the year 85 private cars and 42 commercial vehicles were registered. Of these only 12 cars and one lorry were British.

Imports from New Zealand and Australia consist chiefly of flour, sugar, tinned meats, beer, and tobacco. Gunny bags, used for copra, are of Indian origin.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

It is difficult to draw a comparison between the cost of living in the United Kingdom and Tonga on account of the general difference in conditions. The general tariff on imported goods is 20 per cent. *ad valorem* and the preferential tariff 12½ per cent.; freight charges on imports are high. There is, on the other hand, no

income tax. Supplies of fresh meat, milk, eggs, poultry, and ice are obtainable in Nukualofa, the seat of Government.

In the outlying islands fresh meat, milk, and ice are not procurable. Excellent vegetables are obtainable in Nukualofa, except during the months of December to April, at reasonable prices. The following table shows the current prices of certain necessary commodities :—

Sugar	...	...	4d. per lb.
Tea	...	...	2s. 6d. to 4s. per lb.
Butter	...	...	1s. 6d. local ; 2s. imported.
Flour	...	...	3d. per lb.
Onions	...	...	4d. per lb.
Eggs	...	...	1s. 6d. to 2s. per doz.
Bacon	...	...	1s. 6d. per lb.
Ham	...	...	1s. 9d. lb.
Bread	...	...	6d. per 2 lb. loaf.
Meat	...	...	9d. to 1s. per lb.
Poultry	...	...	2s. to 3s. a fowl.
Kerosene		...	10s. per 4 gallon tin.
Benzine	...	...	10s. per 4 gallon tin.

The household budget of an official will, on the whole, be approximately 25 to 30 per cent. higher in Tonga than in the United Kingdom.

The number of labourers employed in Tonga is negligible. The Tongan cultivates his own farm. A few Solomon Islanders, Fijians, and Indians work in the stores or on European plantations. The average wage of a store labourer is 3s. a day without food. These labourers were in the past brought from Fiji and their passages paid by their employers. The hours of work of a labourer in stores are nine a day. The Government employs Tongan labour on the roads. The unskilled man receives 3s. a day. Labourers on the plantations are few in number. They receive a wage of £2 to £3 a month with food.

Domestic servants are expensive. Tongan men do not engage in domestic duties and Tongan girls receive a wage of £2 10s. 0d. to £3 a month and food. Indian cooks from Fiji, when procurable, receive a wage of £5 to £6 a month, with food, and in addition their fares from and to Fiji are paid by their employers.

The staple foodstuff of the Tongan is root crops grown on his own farm. He uses his pigs as a meat diet. Fish, locally caught, is extensively eaten. It would be difficult to assess with any degree of accuracy his cost of living.

When labourers are rationed by employers the cost is approximately £1 10s. 0d. a month. They are given a diet similar to that of the Tongan.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

The early history of education in Tonga is closely associated with the activities of the Christian Missions. The Government, however, decided on the establishment of State schools at an early stage in the development of the country; there are references to such schools in speeches by King George I delivered over fifty years ago. In 1882 the first King founded Tonga College. He made a personal gift of the valuable site on which the College was built and also endowed it with a large area of planting land. Since its foundation over 4,300 students have been in residence.

Some years before Tonga College was founded the King had founded Tubou College. The Wesleyan Mission since 1826 had carried out educational work but the foundation of the College in 1866 marked a definite advance. Girls were admitted to Tubou College in 1870 and it is on record that girls have been captains of the whole school.

In 1888 the Roman Catholic Mission founded Api Foou College for the further training of selected boys from parochial schools.

In the various Tonga Codes of Law which have been published during the last fifty years statutes dealing with education have been included. In 1927 a comprehensive Act was passed. Education is compulsory for all Tongans between the ages of six and fourteen years. The schools, under the Education Act, are divided into three types, primary, middle, and high. The primary schools provide an elementary education in the vernacular. There are 68 Government and 44 denominational primary schools. The average daily attendance throughout the year was 5,901. The Tongan population at the census taken in April, 1935, was 30,724. Of this total 8,282 are taxpayers, i.e., males over the age of sixteen years. The number of males and females in the country is approximately the same. If, therefore, allowance is made for the children who have not reached the school age and those between the ages of 14 and 16 years, it will be seen that practically all Tongans between the ages of six and fourteen attended the primary schools. These schools provide an education in accordance with a Government syllabus and are subject to an inspection. Elementary instruction is given in the three Rs, history of Tonga, geography, hygiene, singing, needlework, and native arts. The buildings of the Government primary schools were, until the year 1930, provided and maintained by the taxpayers of the villages. By an amending law of that year they are charged on general revenue. Education is free. In all primary schools there is co-education.

It has not been possible to establish the middle schools provided for in the Act. At these an elementary education on an English basis will be given. In the primary schools the medium of instruction is Tongan, but in several of these elementary instruction in English is now given.

The Colleges to which reference has been made above provide a general secondary education of a simple nature. They are residential.

The staff at the Government College consists of three European masters, five Tongan masters, and a bandmaster. There are 294 boys in residence. The ordinary academic subjects are taught; the medium of instruction is English. The boys grow their own food, mostly vegetables and root crops, on the College plantation. The College brass band during term gives a weekly recital in the War Memorial Band Rotunda in Nukualofa and plays on official occasions. The band was first formed in the College in 1886 under the conductorship of the grandson of the royal founder of the College.

The Director of Education, who is also Principal of the College, conducts an annual course of instruction at the College for teachers from the Government primary schools during the long vacation. Instruction is practical and theoretical and the results have proved useful.

Tubou College is a Free Wesleyan Mission school. It is now divided into two parts, the boys' school at Nafualu and the girls' school at Nukualofa. Both are residential. At the end of the year there were 324 boys and 113 girls in residence. The staff at the boys' school consists of one European and five Tongans; at the girls' school there is one European and one Tongan teacher. The objective of the school at Nafualu is the training of boys in academic subjects to fit them for general usefulness in the country and especially in the Church, as primary school teachers in Mission schools. In examinations conducted by the Government the record of the school is particularly good. It possesses a museum housed in an historic Tongan church which was removed from Nukualofa and re-erected in the school grounds. The museum building is the finest example of Tongan architecture now extant. The collection consists of over 200 exhibits.

At the girls' school the curriculum is similar to that taught in the boys' school, domestic science being substituted for the agricultural training given to the boys.

At Api Foou College, there are 115 students in residence. The staff consists of one European and six Tongans.

Secondary education for girls, apart from Mission, is undeveloped.

No provision is made by the Government for the education of European children. The Missions have schools which the children attend. Instruction of an elementary type only is given.

A scholarship scheme was inaugurated in 1927 under which Tongan students from the secondary schools proceed abroad for higher education. At present two scholars are in residence at Newington College, Australia, and two scholars have entered the Central Medical School, Fiji. The value of the scholarships is £150 per annum at Newington College and £100 per annum at the Medical School.

Expenditure on educational services amounted to £5,908. This sum is equivalent to 11·6 per cent. of the total expenditure for the year.

No fees are charged in any Government schools.

The following fees are charged at Mission schools :—

Wesleyan Mission. Secondary Schools only. Boys—£1 per annum. Girls—£2 per annum.

Roman Catholic Mission. Schools at Nukualofa in Tongatabu and Neiafu in Vavau. One shilling per week.

Later Day Saints Mission. Secondary School only 10s. per annum.

No fees are charged at all other schools of these Missions as well as at schools conducted by the Anglican Mission, the Seventh Day Adventist Mission and the Free Church of Tonga.

During the year 1931 an Education Commission was appointed to report, *inter alia*, upon the present administration of the Education Department, with special reference to the supervision and inspection of primary schools, the training of teachers, and the suitability or otherwise of the primary school syllabus. A recommendation of the Commission that primary school work should, so far as possible, be transferred to the Missions, assisted by grants-in-aid, has been approved in Parliament, but action has not yet been taken.

The Government of Tonga contributes to the funds of the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies.

Games play an important part in Tongan school life. The Tongan is a keen Rugby footballer and cricketer and a particularly good tennis player. The sports meeting between Tonga College and Tubou College is one of the big events of Tongan social life. At the girls' school basket ball is extensively played.

The Tongan is a keen musician. Brass and string bands exist in most of the principal towns.

The Tongan is keen also on concerts at which European and Tongan items are performed. Considerable ability is displayed in staging simple plays which are frequently included in concert programmes.

On account of the nature of Tongan polity it is unnecessary to make any provision for orphanages or for the maintenance of persons incapacitated by sickness or accident or for the aged. In all cases care and maintenance devolve upon the relatives who assume responsibility as a matter of course.

During the year 1931 a " European Aid Society " was formed in Nukualofa having for its object the assistance of aged Europeans. The Society is a voluntary one and is kept in funds by small uniform subscriptions from residents. It represents a modest effort on the part of Europeans to render assistance to deserving cases which have arisen in the community.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

A regular four-weekly subsidized cargo service between Nukualofa and Auckland was maintained during the year by a small steamer under charter to the Union Steamship Company. The vessel has no accommodation for passengers. In addition seven vessels visited the Protectorate during the year for copra cargoes. Of these, three were British, three Swedish, and one Panamanian. The Matson Company's trans-Pacific passenger liners no longer call at Niuafo'ou.

Five tourist vessels visited Nukualofa during the year.

The total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared at the two ports of entry amounted to 116,260. Of this total 56,902 was British, 18,534 Swedish, and 4,684 Panamanian.

Inter-insular communication is maintained by a Japanese auxiliary ketch. It is a small ship fitted with a semi-Diesel engine.

Roads.

There are approximately 42 miles of metalled road in Tongatabu and 14 miles in Vavau suitable for motor traffic. The by-roads are graded earth roads; they are unsuitable for heavy traffic during rains.

There are no railways in the islands.

Telephones and Wireless.

The Tongan Government maintains a wireless station at Nukualofa and sub-stations at Vavau, Ha'apai, Niuafoou, and Niuatobutabu. The sub-stations communicate only with the main station. Nukualofa radio communicates with New Zealand, Samoa, and Fiji and thence to all parts of the world. The service with New Zealand was inaugurated in April, 1935, and is conducted on short wave by the Nukualofa and Wellington fixed stations. The sub-stations are equipped with locally-built continuous wave valve transmitters rated at 20 watts input. The power supplied for the valves is furnished by a battery of Leclanché type primary cells. The sub-stations are operated by Tongans who receive training locally. The new system has worked satisfactorily.

The following table shows the traffic handled during the year and the revenue received.

Station.	*Messages.*	*Received.*	*Despatched.*	*Revenue.* £
Nukualofa	Government	—	140	51
	Ordinary	1,206	1,266	327
Vavau	Government	47	43	24
	Ordinary	715	746	158
Ha'apai	Government	30	12	9
	Ordinary	338	436	81
Niuafoou	Government	19	18	9
	Ordinary	113	215	34
Niuatobutabu ...	Government	20	17	10
	Ordinary	70	121	25

A summary of the traffic handled, including British Government and other free telegrams not shown above, is as follows :—messages, 7,283; words, 81,443; revenue, £728.

The terminal charges of the Nukualofa radio for all Tongan stations is 6d. per word from abroad. The inter-insular charge is 4d.

There is a telephone system in Nukualofa which is administered by the Superintendent of Telegraphs. There are 75 subscribers.

The following statement shows the total revenue and expenditure on wireless and telephone services during the year.

		£
Revenue.	Wireless fees	738
	Telephone fees	202
		£930
		£
Expenditure.	Personal emoluments	1,091
	Other charges	304
		£1,395

The wireless operators in the sub-stations perform also the duties of district clerks and are paid from the vote of the department to which they are attached.

Forty-five broadcast receiving licences were issued during the year. Australian, New Zealand or American programmes are heard daily provided atmospheric conditions are not unfavourable. During the year the Empire Station at Daventry was heard on the short wave. Local reception has continued to improve from year to year.

Watches of short wave transmissions from the United Kingdom continued to be kept throughout the year in order that a further report on local reception might be prepared for the information of the General Post Office, London.

Posts.

Foreign mails were despatched throughout the year by Union Steamship Company boats and copra vessels.

Collectors of Customs at Nukualofa and Vavau act as postmasters at these ports. There are sub-post offices in some of the main villages of Tongatabu. British postal-orders are issued at the chief post offices. Money-orders are also issued. During the year the total value of stamps sold amounted to £898. Money-orders to a value of £2,986 were issued and orders to a value of £392 paid. Postal-orders issued and paid amounted in value to £152 and £16 respectively.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

A Government Savings Bank was established in 1926. The following statistics show the operations of the Bank since its institution :—

Year.	*Deposits.*	*Withdrawals.*
	£	£
1926	3,495	558
1927	7,929	3,900
1928	12,341	9,717
1929	11,359	8,528
1930	23,689	14,228
1931	15,930	11,358
1932	19,763	15,546
1933	10,578	15,303
1934	17,649	18,797
1935	10,005	16,310

The total amount at the credit of depositors at the end of the year was £18,499.

The number of depositors at the end of the year was :—

Tongans	1,117
Europeans and others	190

Interest at the rate of 2¾ per cent. was allowed on the first £500 deposited and at the rate of 2½ per cent. for an additional amount up to £1,000.

The invested funds of the Bank amount to £17,986.

There is no other Bank in Tonga.

There are no Building, Co-operative, or Friendly Societies.

Currency.

British and Australian coin was made the currency of Tonga by a Statute passed by the Tongan Parliament in 1906. Tongan Government notes were issued in 1919; at the present time notes to the value of £21,268 are in circulation. The issue is secured by an investment reserve. The Treasury Notes Act, 1935, adopts the exchange standard system based on Australian Currency.

Weights and Measures.

British weights and measures are, by Statute, the standard weights and measures of the country.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The Works Department of the Government of Tonga has been reduced, for financial reasons, to a skeleton staff and now consists of an Engineer assisted by a Tongan staff. Works beyond the

capacity of the Department are carried out by contractors from abroad or by arrangement with the Public Works Department of Fiji.

The activities of the local Department were confined to maintenance work on public buildings and on the roads.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

There are two jurisdictions in Tonga, the British and the Tongan.

The British Agent holds a commission as a Deputy Commissioner of His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner's Court for the Western Pacific. He is a Judicial Commissioner in Divorce. Under the provisions of the Treaty of 1900, jurisdiction in civil matters is exercised by the British Court over British subjects and foreigners. The British Court has jurisdiction in probate and divorce matters where British subjects and foreigners are parties. In criminal cases British subjects and foreigners charged with an offence against the laws of Tonga, not including crimes punishable by death or by imprisonment exceeding two years, are amenable to the jurisdiction of the Courts of Tonga. The reserved cases are justiciable in the British Court.

The jurisdiction of the British Court is exercised in conformity with the provisions of the Pacific Order in Council, 1893. The principles of British law, so far as circumstances admit, are applied. The judicial work of the British Agent is light. During the year two criminal and 16 civil cases were heard and determined and two grants of letters of administration issued.

The Courts of the Tongan Government has full jurisdiction over Tongans and the limited jurisdiction stated above over British subjects and foreigners. The Tongan judicial system is based on the British model, and trial by jury, in cases where the accused are Tongans, is provided for in the Constitution.

The Justice Department of the Government of Tonga consists of the Chief Justice, who acts also as Land Judge, a European Magistrate, and three Tongan Magistrates. The Supreme Court exercises jurisdiction in all civil cases in which the amount claimed exceeds £50 and in all criminal cases where the maximum penalty exceeds a fine of £50 or two years' imprisonment; other cases are heard in the Magistrates' Courts. Where the person charged is a European the case is heard and determined by the European Magistrate if it comes within magisterial jurisdiction; other cases are tried by the Chief Justice sitting with two European assessors.

The Land Court Judge, sitting with a Tongan assessor, hears and determines land claims.

Serious crime among the Tongan people is of infrequent occurrence.

The following table shows the number of indictments which have been tried by the Chief Justice during the last five years :—

Year.	*Number of Indictments.*	*Convictions.*
1931	24	12
1932	36	26
1933	22	14
1934	33	27
1935	28	24

The following table shows the number of criminal cases heard and determined in the Magistrates' Courts during the last five years :—

Year.	*Number of Cases.*	*Convictions.*	*Acquittals.*
1931 ...	2,590	1,839	727
1932 ...	3,361	2,263	868
1933 ...	2,668	1,854	647
1934 ...	3,334	2,274	821
1935 ...	3,264	2,349	721

Twenty-nine cases were committed for trial.

The majority of criminal cases heard in the Magistrates' Courts were for minor municipal and traffic offences.

The following table shows the number of convictions recorded during the last five years for the cases dealt with in the Magistrates' Courts other than municipal and traffic offences :—

Offence.	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*
Theft	135	126	117	137	114
Trespass	19	4	23	44	33
Other offences against property ...	15	5	18	2	1
Assault	55	61	79	104	107
Fighting	21	12	16	31	34
Cruelty to animals	118	78	87	64	109

The various punishments imposed during the year in respect of the convictions in the Magistrates' Courts were as follows : fines, 2,203 ; imprisonment for non-payment of fines, 1,057 ; peremptory imprisonment, 104 ; whipping or whipping and imprisonment, 42.

There is a considerable amount of civil litigation among the Tongans. During the year one civil case came before the Supreme Court and 1,853 actions were heard in the Magistrates' Courts.

There is an appeal from a Magistrate's decision to the Chief Justice in all civil cases and in every criminal case except when the defendant pleads guilty.

During the year the Chief Justice heard 24 appeals, 15 criminal and nine civil. In the criminal appeals the sentences and fines imposed by the Magistrates were affirmed in four cases, two were remitted for rehearing, five were reduced and four appeals were

allowed. In the civil appeals the decisions of the Magistrates were upheld in six cases, a new trial was ordered in two cases, and one appeal was allowed.

The Supreme Court heard six cases in divorce. Decrees absolute were granted in four cases.

The Supreme Court in its probate jurisdiction granted letters of administration in 72 cases. The number of grants of probate or letters of administration which issued out of the Court during the last five years were as follows:—1931, 105; 1932, 87; 1933, 97; 1934, 72; and 1935, 67.

The total value of estates in 1935 was £5,333.

There are twenty Tongan lawyers practising in the Courts. Licences to practise are issued by the Chief Justice. There is no educational qualification imposed, but the Chief Justice has a discretionary power to refuse to issue a licence to undesirable persons.

Police.

The Police Department is in charge of a Tongan Minister who is also the Public Prosecutor. The Department has a strength of one European inspector, three Tongan inspectors, and 38 non-commissioned officers and men. The Tongan police, when called upon to do so, assist His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner's Court in making arrests and enforcing judgments.

The total expenditure of the force for all services was £4,165. The cost of the police per head of the population was 2s. 7d.

The number of persons prosecuted by the police for offences of all kinds during the last five years is as follows: 1931, 2,496; 1932, 3,345; 1933, 2531; 1934, 3,253; 1935, 2,942. The great majority of these prosecutions were for offences of a trivial nature.

All traffic is controlled by the force, which carries out the registration of motor vehicles and the examination of drivers.

In addition to ordinary police duties the force is responsible for the inspection of villages and road frontages and the taking of the annual census.

Prisons.

The Minister of Police is in charge of the Prisons. There is a main goal at Nukualofa with sub-goals at Ha'apai, Vavau, and the two Niuas. There is also a sub-gaol on the Government Agricultural station at Vaikeli where prisoners grow foodstuffs for the Prison and Police Departments. Juvenile offenders are confined in the latter sub-gaol apart from adult prisoners. Crime among juveniles is very rare. All prisoners undergoing a sentence of over six months' imprisonment are confined in the Nukualofa gaol. The number of prisoners in custody on 1st January and 31st December in the Nukualofa goal was 45 and 94 respectively.

The main gaol at Nukualofa consists of two main wooden buildings, a women's gaol, and a hospital. There is no provision for the confinement of prisoners in separate cells.

The sub-gaols consist of small wooden buildings suitable for local requirements.

Prisoners are visited regularly by the Medical Officer. The health of prisoners throughout the year was satisfactory.

Prisoners may earn remission of sentence by industry accompanied by good conduct. The maximum remission for prisoners undergoing a first term of imprisonment is one-quarter of the sentence.

Orders for payments of fines made in the Magistrates' Courts are not enforced for 14 days after the making of the order. If the law under which the order is made does not provide for imprisonment in default of payment a warrant of distress is then issued. In default of distress a warrant of commitment issues ordering a defendant to be imprisoned in respect of the sum still remaining unsatisfied by the distress for any term not exceeding the term specified in respect of a like sum in the scale of imprisonment provided in the Magistrates Act.

Provision is made in Tongan law for the probation of offenders when any person is convicted of an offence, and the Court is of opinion, having regard to the character, age, health or mental condition of the person charged, or to the trivial nature of the offence, or to the extenuating circumstances under which it was committed, that it is inexpedient to inflict any other than a nominal punishment, or that it is expedient to release the offender on probation, the Court may, in lieu of imposing a sentence of imprisonment, make an order discharging the offender conditionally on his entering into a recognizance, with or without securities, to be of good behaviour and to appear for sentence when called upon at any time during such period not exceeding three years as may be specified in the order. When a probation order is made the Court is required to furnish the offender with a notice in writing stating in simple terms the conditions he is required to observe.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Eighteen Acts were passed at the 1935 Session of the Tongan Parliament. Important Acts were :—

The Tongan Nationality Act.—Defines the persons who are to be regarded as Tongan nationals.

The Whaling Industry (Regulation) Act.—Gives effect in Tonga to the International Convention for the Regulation of whaling.

The Carriage by Air Act.—Gives effect in Tonga to the provisions of the Convention for the Unification of certain rules relating to International Carriage by Air.

The Treasury Notes Act.—Adopts the exchange standard system. The standard is based on Australian currency.

The other Acts and Regulations passed during the year call for no comment.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The Tongan financial year ends on 30th June. The revenue and expenditure totals for each of the last five years are as follows:—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1930–31	70,663	78,500
1931–32	57,224	63,986
1932–33	64,072	60,347
1933–34	54,743	64,620
1934–35	61,654	55,515

There is no public debt, and at the close of the last financial year the surplus funds of the country amounted to £133,719. These funds are invested in New Zealand, Australia, Straits Settlements, Uganda, Northern Rhodesia, Kenya and Nigeria Stock, and in fixed deposits with the Bank of New Zealand in Sydney and Auckland.

The main heads of taxation are the native tax, Customs dues, and trading licences.

The following table shows the yield of the Customs dues and native tax during the last five years:—

Year.	*Customs.*	*Native tax.*
	£	£
1930–31	27,026	11,677
1931–32	20,496	9,491
1932–33	22,459	11,673
1933–34	20,181	9,437
1934–35	21,823	13,824

The tariff was revised in 1933 so as to introduce preferential duties for goods of Empire origin. The general tariff is 20 per cent. *ad valorem;* the preferential rate is 12½ per cent. Specific duties are applied to a few articles.

The principal specific duties are as follows:—

Article.	*General Tariff.*	*British Preferential Tariff.*
	s. d.	s. d.
Beer, per gal.	2 0	1 6
Benzine, per gal.	4	4
Cigarettes, per lb.	10 0	8 0
Flour, per 150 lb.	4 6	2 3

Article.	*General Tariff.* s.	d.	*British Preferential Tariff.* s.	d.
Kerosene of 150 degrees or over closed flash test, per gal.		3		3
Spirits of all kinds, of which the strength can be ascertained by Sykes' hydrometer and which is proof or over-proof—per proof gal.	34	0	28	0
Spirits of all kinds, of which the strength can be ascertained by Sykes' hydrometer and which is underproof—per liquid gal.	29	0	23	0
Sugar, per lb.		1		½
Timber, undressed, per 100 sq. ft. ...	2	0	1	6
Timber, dressed, per 100 sq. ft.	2	6	2	0
Tobacco manufactured, per lb. ...	7	0	5	0

The principal articles on the free list are :—

Bags, new, for copra.

Agricultural machinery and implements.

There is an export tax on copra of £1 per ton.

There are no excise duties.

The principal stamp duties on documents are :—

	s.	d.
Agreement or memorandum of agreement (whether the same be evidence of a contract or obligatory upon the parties from its being a written document)—		
Where the value amounts to £1 but does not exceed £3		2
Where the value exceeds £3 but does not exceed £10	1	0
Where the value exceeds £10 then for every additional £10 and also for every part of £10 (but not to exceed 10s. on any such document)	2	0
Bill of lading and each copy	1	0
Bill of exchange—		
(1) Payable on demand or at sight or on presentation		2
(2) Payable otherwise than on demand, sight, or presentation, drawn or expressed to be payable in or actually paid or endorsed in any manner negotiated in the Kingdom—		
For any sum not exceeding £50	1	0
For every additional £50 and also for every fractional part of £50	1	0

	s.	d.
Promissory note of any kind (except a Bank note or Currency note)—		
For any sum not exceeding £5		2
Exceeding £5 but not exceeding £25		6
For every additional £25 and also for every fractional part of £25		6
(Exemptions—All bills of exchange or promissory notes issued by any Bank for Government purposes to the Treasurer.)		
Lease or agreement for a lease or any written document for the tenancy or occupancy of any land or buildings—		
The following duties in respect of the rent at the rate per annum—		
Where the rent does not exceed £25	2	0
Where the rent exceeds £25 and does not exceed £50	5	0
Above £50, for every £50, and also for every fractional part of £50	5	0
Conveyance or transfer—		
(1) Of any lease	5	0
(2) On sale of any goods whether included in a transfer of a lease or not for every £50 and also for every fractional part of £50 ...	2	0
Mortgage, bond, debenture, or covenant—		
(1) Being the only or principal or primary security for the payment or repayment of any money not exceeding £50	2	0
For every additional £50 and also for every fractional part of £50	2	0
(2) Transfer or assignment of any mortgage, bond, debenture, or covenant, and also where any further money is added to the money secured	(The same rate of duty as (1).)	
(3) Being a collateral, or auxiliary, or additional, or substituted security, or by way of further assurance for the above-mentioned purposes :		
Where the principal or primary security is duly stamped	2	0
(4) Re-conveyance, release, or discharge of any such security as aforesaid or the benefit thereof, or of the money thereby secured ...	2	0

Receipt—	s.	d.
Given for or upon the payment of money—		
Amounting to £2 or upwards but not exceeding £50		2
Exceeding £50 or upwards but not exceeding £100		4
Exceeding £100		6

(Exemptions—Receipts given for or upon the payment of money to or for the use of the Government of Tonga; receipts or discharges given by any person for the payment of wages or salary; receipts given for contributions for charitable institutions or religious bodies.)

All male Tongans, when they attain the age of 16 years, pay a poll tax of 36s. per annum. The tax is paid in quarterly instalments. The yield of the tax during the last five years is set out above. A register of taxpayers is kept by the district tax clerk. This register is revised annually from a list of taxpayers prepared by the District Officer. The tax is paid direct to the district clerk by the taxpayer. Exemption from the tax may be granted on the grounds of old age or sickness.

There is no hut tax.

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Lands and Survey.

The Tongan land system is, in many respects, unique.

In historic times the Tongan lived on his farm rather than in village communities; the communal land ownership which is met with in parts of the Pacific is unknown in Tonga. In the 18th century the troubled condition of the land drove the peasant proprietors to take refuge together in fortresses, and out of these fortresses the modern village has grown. The remains of many old trenches exist to-day. Although the necessity for living together for purposes of mutual protection disappeared in the middle of last century, the people did not revert to their old mode of life and the town is now an accepted part of Tongan polity.

The historic system of land tenure was feudal. The great chiefs held of the King and they sub-divided their land among their followers. Through the chiefs the King received tribute and they in turn exacted feudal dues from the people. In the first Constitution of Tonga, granted by the King over fifty years ago, it was expressly enacted that the Kingdom was the King's. The King, however, confirmed in their ancestral holdings the high chiefs and out of the royal and chiefs' estates holdings were granted to the people. In course of time a grant which was made in return for service in cash or kind became the right of the people and a law was passed which entitled every Tongan, when he became a taxpayer, to two holdings, a house site in the village, and tax lands in the bush.

It is not possible, within the limits of this report, to develop further the evolution of the Tongan land system ; it is felt, however, that a brief reference to the system of the past is necessary before the present system of tenure is shortly described.

Every Tongan male, when he attains the age of 16 and thereby becomes a taxpayer, is entitled to a tax allotment of 8¼ acres in the bush and a town site not exceeding 132 feet square. He obtains the grant upon application to the Minister of Lands. The Minister makes the allotment from the estate of the chief on which the applicant resides. If land is not available on such estate the allotment is made from the estate of another chief who is willing to provide it. If no allotment is made under this latter provision Crown land is utilized. If the applicant is already resident on Crown land, the allotment is made therefrom in the first place.

The rental for the tax allotment is 8s. per annum. It is paid to the Crown or the chief according to where the allotment is made. No rent is charged for the village site.

Provision is made in the law for ejectment for the non-payment of rent or for the non-compliance with the planting section of the law. It is mandatory on every holder, as an incident of tenure, within one year of the grant to plant 200 coconut trees on his allotment, properly spaced as provided by law. Provision is made for the survey and registration of grants. Upon the death of a holder his widow is entitled to a life estate in the allotment and devolution is expressly provided for. No Tongan may hold two tax allotments, but he may obtain a lease of an extra area.

Provision was made in 1927 to enable a Tongan to receive, upon application being made, in lieu of the grants referred to, an area of 12⅜ acres of tax land in the bush for which he pays a rental of 4s. If he obtains such allotment, he is not eligible for a town site. It was hoped by reducing the rental and increasing the area to induce the people to live on the land rather than in the village. It was also hoped that Tongans who live in congested islands would transfer to other islands where the larger areas at the reduced rentals were available. So far only 23 applications have been received for the 12⅜ acre blocks.

Provision was made in 1934 to permit the chiefs, provided the Executive considered there was sufficient land available for the grant of the ordinary tax allotments of 8¼ acres, to grant on application made an area of 15 acres, in lieu of the grants referred to above, to Tongans resident on their estates. This area is made up as follows :—

(*a*) a tax allotment of 8¼ acres ;

(*b*) a town allotment of 1¾ acres ;

(*c*) a leased area of five acres for a period of 50 years at a nominal rental.

Grants on this basis have been made on an estate of one of the chiefs. The advantage of the new system is that taxpayers would live on their farms.

Without the consent of the Executive no chief or allotment holder may grant a lease or make any agreement in respect of his land. The mortgaging of growing crops is illegal.

It is a curious fact that many Tongans do not take advantage of their statutory right to land. There is no compulsion to apply. At the present time, according to records available, allotments are held by 5,872 taxpayers and 710 widows; there are 2,342 taxpayers who have not applied for an allotment. These persons live in towns or on their fathers' cultivated allotments to which they hope in time to succeed.

In other cases there is a disinclination to leave an island which is fully settled. Ample land is available for a full development of the land system and if every taxpayer were an allotment-holder approximately one half of the area of the country would still be available for distribution.

The interest of a Tongan in land, whether he is a chief or a commoner, is a life estate. His ownership is limited in point of disposition; it possesses certain attributes of an estate in fee tail which the holder for life cannot bar. The land system is of interest as being an example of a system grafted by law upon the polity of a people and becoming a leading feature of that polity.

The survey work performed by the Government surveyors consisted in demarcating tax and town allotments. Lease and road surveys were also carried out. The number of European leases in Tonga is 1,661 of a total area of 6,941 acres. The majority of the leases, apart from residencies in the towns, consist of store sites and the small trading stations of the large commercial houses.

APPENDIX A.

Meteorological Summary for the Year 1935.

Extremes and means for the year.

NUKUALOFA. (Lat. 21-7-58·6 S. Long. 175-11-59·1 W.

Barometer:
Highest, 30·219 on 10th August.
Lowest, 29·42 on 21st March.
Mean, 29·928

Humidity:
Highest, 99·5 per cent. on 26th January.
Lowest, 55·2 per cent. on 16th January.
Mean, 80 per cent.

Temperature:
Highest, 89·8° on 20th February.
Lowest, 56° on 14th July.
Mean, 74·9°

Rainfall: 66·18 inches.

Number of days on which rain fell: 150.

Most rain in any 24-hour period: 4·52 inches on 21st September.

Cyclonic Storms: 11th–12th July.
Lowest barometer 29·58. Wind N.W through W. to W.xS. Maximum velocity of wind 46 m.p.h.

HA'APAI. (Lat. 19-48-31·25 S. Long. 174-20-55·8 W.)

Barometer:
Highest, 30·192 on 9th August.
Lowest, 29·276 on 21st March.
Mean, 29·913

Humidity:
Highest, 99·5 per cent. on 25th January, 21st March and 21st July.
Lowest, 53·5 per cent. on 28th May.
Mean, 80·6 per cent.

Temperature:
Highest, 92·7° on 15th March.
Lowest, 61° on 16th May and 7th August.
Mean, 78·1°

Rainfall: 63·65 inches.

Number of days on which rain fell: 144.

Most rain in any 24-hour period: 3·37 inches on 11th October.

Cyclonic Storms: 21st March, 12th July and 27th December.

21st March, 1935: Lowest barometer 29·276. Wind E.N.E. through E. to S.W.xS. Maximum velocity of wind 46 m.p.h.

12th July, 1935: Lowest barometer 29·65. Wind N.E. through N. to N.W. Maximum velocity of wind 38 m.p.h.

27th December, 1935: Lowest barometer 29·476. Wind E.N.E. through E. to S.S.W. Maximum velocity of wind 46 m.p.h.

VAVAU. (Lat. 18-38-58 S. Long. 173-59-12 W.)

Barometer:
Highest, 30·178 on 9th August.
Lowest, 28·884 on 21st March.
Mean, 29·880

Humidity:
Highest, 98 per cent. on 13th December.
Lowest, 49·5 per cent. on 21st April.
Mean, 78·7 per cent.

Temperature:
Highest, 90° on 15th and 16th March.
Lowest, 62° on 19th July.
Mean, 78·8°

Rainfall: 85·98 inches.

Number of days on which rain fell: 178.

Most rain in any 24-hour period: 4·95 inches on 21st March.

Cyclonic Storms: 21st March and 27th December.
21st March, 1935: Lowest barometer 28·884. Wind S.S.E. through S. to S.S.W. Maximum velocity of wind 68 m.p.h.
27th December, 1935: Lowest barometer 29·283. Wind E. through N. to N.W. Maximum velocity of wind 63 m.p.h.

NIUATOBUTABU. (Lat. 15-57-32 S. Long. 173-46-33 W.)

Barometer:
Highest, 30·076 on 15th July and 5th August.
Lowest, 29·232 on 20th March.
Mean, 29·870

Humidity:
Highest, 100 per cent. on 3rd May.
Lowest, 62·2 per cent. on 20th September.
Mean, 80·8 per cent.

Temperature:
Highest, 91·2° on 13th March.
Lowest, 65° on 3rd June.
Mean, 80·6°

Rainfall: 122·20 inches.

Number of days on which rain fell: 223.

Most rain in any 24-hour period: 8·35 inches on 20th March.

Cyclonic Storms: 19th–20th March and 26th December.
19th–20th March, 1935: Lowest barometer 29·232. Wind E.N.E. through N. to N.W. Maximum velocity of wind 68 m.p.h.
26th December, 1935: Lowest barometer 29·548. Wind N.E. through N. to N.N.W. Maximum velocity of wind 46 m.p.h.

NIUAFO'OU. (Lat. 15-33-55 S. Long. 175-37-55 W.)

Barometer:
Highest, 30·050 on 10th August.
Lowest, 29·50 on 19th March.
Mean, 29·861

Humidity:
Highest, 98 per cent. on 1st October and 8th December.
Lowest, 59·6 per cent. on 8th August.
Mean, 80·9 per cent.

Temperature :

Highest, 92° on 26th and 28th February.
Lowest, 69·3° on 12th August.
Mean, 81·1°

Rainfall : 90·36 inches.

Number of days on which rain fell : 221.

Most rain in any 24-hour period : 7·39 inches on 28th November.

Cyclonic Storms : Nil.

APPENDIX B.

Publications.

Mariner's Account of the Tonga Islands. J. Martin.	Murray. London. 1817.	
Missionary Voyage of the *Duff*, commanded by Capt. James Wilson.	Chapman. London. 1799.	
Account of a voyage in search of La Perouse. J. J. de Labillardière.	London. 1802.	
Diversions of a Prime Minister. Sir B. H. Thomson.	Blackwood. London. 1894.	(15s.)
Tongan Society. E. W. Gifford	Bishop Museum. Honolulu. 1929.	
History and Geography of Tonga. A. H. Wood.	Government Printer. Tonga. 1932.	
Annual Colonial Reports	H.M. Stationery Office.	

(38873-48) Wt. 2549-3725 500 12/36 P. St. G. 377/7

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE
Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730] 9d. (10d.)

ECONOMIC CONSULTATION AND CO-OPERATION
Report of Imperial Committee, 1933 [Cmd. 4335] 2s. (2s. 2d.)

IMPERIAL ECONOMIC CONFERENCE, OTTAWA, 1932
Summary of Proceedings and copies of Trade Agreements [Cmd. 4174] 1s. 6d. (1s. 8d.)
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings [Cmd. 4175] 3s. (3s. 3d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT
Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1935 to 31st March, 1936 [Cmd. 5202] 4d. (5d.)

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH IN EAST AFRICA
Report of the East African Agricultural Research Station, Amani, for the period 1st April, 1935 to 31st March, 1936 [Colonial No. 119] 1s. (In the press)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES
Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

KENYA: FINANCIAL POSITION AND SYSTEM OF TAXATION
Report of Commission (including five Maps) [Colonial No. 116] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

KENYA: NATIVE AFFAIRS
Report of the Kenya Native Affairs Department for the year 1934 [Non-Parliamentary Publication] 3s. (3s. 4d.)

NOTE.—*These Reports are published by His Majesty's Stationery Office as they become available.*

KENYA LAND COMMISSION
Report, September, 1933 [Cmd. 4556] 11s. (11s. 9d.)
Evidence and Memoranda. [Colonial No. 91]. Issued in three Volumes, £2 each volume, by post £2 0s. 9d.
Summary of Conclusions reached by His Majesty's Government [Cmd. 4580] 2d. (2½d.)

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE IN EAST AFRICA
Report of the Commission of Enquiry into the Administration of Justice in Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika Territory in Criminal Matters [Cmd. 4623] 3s. (3s. 3d.)
Evidence and Memoranda [Colonial No. 96] £1 (£1 0s. 6d.)

PALESTINE: IMMIGRATION, LAND SETTLEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT
Report by Sir John Hope Simpson, C.I.E., 1930 [Cmd. 3686] 3s. (3s. 3d.)
Maps [Cmd. 3687] 2s. (2s. 3d.)

PALESTINE: DISTURBANCES OF AUGUST, 1929
Report of Commission [Cmd. 3530] 4s. (4s. 4d.)
Evidence and Memoranda. Issued in two Volumes, with a third volume containing an Index
Vols. I and II ... ... £1 5s. each, by post £1 5s. 9d.
Vol. III (Index) 3s. 6d. (3s. 8d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS
Report by W. H. Ingrams, O.B.E. (with map) (In the press)

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COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

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Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

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CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

S.O. Code No. 58-1787

The adverse exchange position (Tongan Currency is on the Australian basis) and the importation of cheap drapery from Japan appreciably affected trade with the United Kingdom.

Domestic Exports.

The main domestic export, copra, is shipped to Europe on optional bills of lading and the ultimate destination of the copra is not recorded. It is not, therefore, possible to give statistics of the destination of domestic exports which could accurately reflect the trade position. The country of destination of the second largest export, bananas, is New Zealand. These two products represent 99·4 per cent. of the domestic exports of Tonga.

The values of principal imports, with the principal sources of supply:—

Article.	*Total value.*	*1937.*	*Total value.*	*1936.*	*Country of origin.*
	£	£	£	£	
Bags, gunny ...	(5,230)	5,230	(5,320)	5,320	India.
Beer	(1,274)	1,126	(818)	701	Australia.
		19		14	United Kingdom.
		42		60	New Zealand.
		70		42	Germany.
Benzine ...	(3,626)	3,081	(1,808)	1,397	United States of America.
		545		373	Dutch East Indies.
		—		39	Russia.
Biscuits ...	(1,776)	1,052	(1,068)	580	Fiji.
		670		410	Australia.
		54		60	New Zealand.
Butter ...	(1,373)	1,337	(1,103)	1,072	New Zealand.
		36		31	Australia.
Cigars and cigarettes.	(433)	212	(387)	110	Australia.
		201		254	United Kingdom.
		14		—	United States of America.
		—		15	Japan.
Cordage and rope	(1,420)	480	(1,019)	297	Australia.
		365		230	United Kingdom.
		360		351	New Zealand.
		120		72	Canada.
		75		57	United States of America.
Drapery ...	(22,271)	4,123	(14,371)	2,287	United Kingdom.
		789		577	New Zealand.
		341		232	Australia.
		16,535		10,910	Japan.
		165		89	United States of America.
Flour	(14,575)	14,572	(9,650)	9,355	Australia.
		3		295	New Zealand.
Galvanized ware	(2,885)	2,124	(1,251)	885	United Kingdom.
		519		242	Australia.
		44		19	New Zealand.
		46		103	Japan.
		70		—	Belgium.
		47		—	Germany.

Article.	*Total value.*	*1937.*	*Total value.*	*1936.*	*Country of origin.*
	£	£	£	£	
Hardware ...	(2,882)	1,129	(1,774)	608	United Kingdom.
		342		220	Australia.
		381		215	New Zealand.
		412		254	Japan.
		300		158	Germany.
		194		112	United States of America.
		53		78	Sweden.
Meats, tinned	(20,775)	17,374	(10,882)	10,153	New Zealand.
		3,336		637	Australia.
		8		3	United Kingdom.
		44		32	Argentine.
		15		4	United States of America.
		—		38	Uruguay.
Motor cars and parts.	(2,908)	1,571	(2,145)	761	Canada.
		738		375	United Kingdom.
		105		155	Australia.
		26		21	New Zealand.
		450		422	United States of America.
		18		63	Japan.
Soap	(2,533)	1,647	(1,958)	1,149	Fiji.
		638		512	Australia.
		216		267	New Zealand.
		18		25	Japan.
Spirits ...	(1,046)	814	(529)	407	United Kingdom.
		53		27	Australia.
		156		89	Holland.
Sugar	(3,182)	344	(3,157)	267	Australia.
		2,677		2,803	New Zealand.
		101		23	Fiji.
		60		64	Dutch East Indies.
Tobacco ...	(3,679)	3,666	(1,905)	1,899	Australia.
		12		4	United States of America.
Timber ...	(2,553)	1,577	(1,769)	1,334	Canada.
		458		254	New Zealand.
		518		180	Australia.

The values and quantities of principal domestic exports:—

Article.	*1937.* *Quantity*	*Value*	*1936.* *Quantity*	*Value*
		£		£
Copra	... 12,288 tons	158,133	11,899 tons.	105,078
Bananas ...	... 13,715 cases	4,128	25,928 cases	7,373
Fungus ...	... 6 tons	150	9 tons	277
Bêche-de-mer...	... nil	—	8 tons	516
Re-exports.				
Cinema films ...	... 117 packages	405	13 packages	95

The imports and exports of coin for the last five years were as follows:—

Year.	*Imports.*	*Exports.*
	£	£
1933	—	4,500
1934	—	7,841
1935	410	800
1936	4,530	1,885
1937	2,425	—

There was no import or export of notes.

VIII.—LABOUR.

Labour, in the ordinary sense of the term, may be said not to exist in Tonga. The country is, in general, a land of peasant proprietors each man cultivating his own statutory holdings. The plantation system is unknown and there is no recruitment of labour. In the few European leaseholds which exist and in the stores, labour is obtained by the spontaneous offer of services. The relationship between employer and labourer is governed by the principles of common law. There is no contract labour and the number of labourers employed is negligible. There are no mines or factories. The Constitution of Tonga provides that all men may dispose of their labour as they will.

IX.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

It is difficult to draw a comparison between the cost of living in the United Kingdom and Tonga on account of the general difference in conditions. The general tariff on imported goods is 20 per cent. *ad valorem* and the preferential tariff is 12½ per cent.; freight charges on imports are high. There is, on the other hand, no income tax. Supplies of fresh meat, milk, eggs, poultry, and ice are obtainable in Nukualofa, the seat of Government.

In the outlying islands fresh meat, milk, and ice are not procurable. Excellent vegetables are obtainable in Nukualofa, except during the months of December to April, at reasonable prices. The following table shows the current prices of certain necessary commodities:—

Sugar	4d. per lb.
Tea	2s. 6d. to 4s. per lb.
Butter	1s. 6d. local; 2s. imported.
Flour	1s. per 5 lb.
Onions	4d. per lb.
Eggs	1s. 6d. to 2s. per doz.
Bacon	1s. 9d. per lb.
Ham	2s. per lb.
Bread	9d. per 2-lb. loaf.
Meat	9d. to 1s. per lb.
Poultry	2s. to 3s. a fowl.
Kerosene	10s. per 4-gallon tin.
Benzine	10s. per 4-gallon tin.

The household budget of an official will, on the whole, be approximately 25 to 30 per cent. higher in Tonga than in the United Kingdom.

The number of labourers employed in Tonga is negligible. The Tongan cultivates his own farm. A few Solomon Islanders, Fijians, and Indians work in the stores or on European plantations. The average wage of a store labourer is 3s. a day with two meals. These labourers were in the past brought from Fiji and their passages paid by their employers. The hours of work of a labourer in stores are nine a day. The Government employs Tongan labour on the roads. The unskilled man receives 3s. a day. Labourers on the plantations are few in number. They receive a wage of £2 to £4 a month with food.

Domestic servants are expensive. Tongan men do not engage in domestic duties and Tongan girls receive a wage of £2 10s. to £3 a month and food. Indian cooks from Fiji, when procurable, receive a wage of £5 to £6 a month, with food, and in addition their fares from and to Fiji are paid by their employers.

The staple foodstuff of the Tongan is root crops grown on his own farm. He uses his pigs as a meat diet. Fish, locally caught, is extensively eaten. It would be difficult to assess with any degree of accuracy his cost of living.

When labourers are rationed by employers the cost is approximately £1 10s. a month. They are given a diet similar to that of a Tongan.

X.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

The early history of education in Tonga is closely associated with the activities of the Christian Missions. The Government, however, decided on the establishment of State schools at an early stage in the development of the country; there are references to such schools in speeches by King George I delivered over 50 years ago. In 1882 the first King founded Tonga College. He made a personal gift of the valuable site on which the College was built and also endowed it with a large area of planting land. Since its foundation over 4,500 students have been in residence.

Some years before Tonga College was founded, the King had founded Tubou College. The Wesleyan Mission since 1826 had carried out educational work but the foundation of the College in 1866 marked a definite advance. Girls were admitted to Tubou College in 1870 and it is on record that girls have been captains of the whole school.

In 1888 the Roman Catholic Mission founded Api Foou College for the further training of selected boys from parochial schools.

Secondary schools are also conducted by the Seventh Day Adventist and the Latter Day Saints Missions.

In the various Tonga Codes of Law which have been published during the last 50 years statutes dealing with education have been included. In 1927 a comprehensive Act was passed. Education is compulsory for all Tongans between the ages of six and fourteen years. The schools, under the Education Act, are divided into three types, primary, middle, and high. The primary schools provide an elementary education in the vernacular. There are 64 Government and 44 denominational primary schools. The average daily attendance throughout the year was 6,128. The Tongan population at the census taken in April, 1937, was 32,861. Of this total 8,521 are taxpayers, i.e., males over the age of 16 years. The number of males and females in the country is approximately the same. If, therefore, allowance is made for the children who have not reached the school age and those between the ages of 14 and 16 years, it will be seen that practically all Tongans between the ages of six and 14 attended the primary schools. These schools provide an education in accordance with a Government syllabus and are subject to an inspection. Elementary instruction is given in the three Rs, history of Tonga, geography, hygiene, singing, needlework, and native arts. The buildings of the Government primary schools were, until the year 1930, provided and maintained by the taxpayers of the villages. By an amending law of that year they are charged on general revenue. Education is free. In all primary schools there is co-education.

It has not been possible to establish the middle schools provided for in the Act. At these an elementary education on an English basis will be given. In the primary schools the medium of instruction is Tongan, but in several of these elementary instruction in English is now given.

The Colleges to which reference has been made above provide a general secondary education of a simple nature. They are residential.

Education is controlled by the Minister of Education who is assisted by the Director of Education and a Board of Education. During the year the posts of Director of Education and Principal of Tonga College were separated.

The staff at the Government College consists of the European Principal, one European master, five Tongan masters, and a bandmaster. There are 290 boys in residence. The ordinary academic subjects are taught; the medium of instruction is English. The boys grow their own food, mostly vegetables and root crops, on the College plantation. The College brass band during term gives a weekly recital in the War Memorial Band

Rotunda in Nukualofa and plays on official occasions. The band was first formed in the College in 1886 under the conductorship of the grandson of the royal founder of the College.

The Principal of the College conducts an annual course of instruction at the College for teachers from the Government primary schools during the long vacation. Instruction is practical and theoretical and the results have proved useful.

Tubou College is a Free Wesleyan Mission school. It is now divided into two parts, the boys' school at Nafualu and the girls' school at Nukualofa. Both are residential. At the end of the year there were 388 boys and 168 girls in residence. The staff at the boys' school consists of one European and five Tongans; at the girls' school there are one European and two Tongan teachers. The object of the school at Nafualu is the training of boys in academic subjects to fit them for general usefulness in the country and especially in the Church, as primary school teachers in Mission schools. In examinations conducted by the Government the record of the school is particularly good. It possesses a museum housed in an historic Tongan Church which was removed from Nukualofa and re-erected in the school grounds. The museum building is the finest example of Tongan architecture now extant. The collection consists of over 200 exhibits.

At the girls' school the curriculum is similar to that taught in the boys' school, domestic science being substituted for the agricultural training given to the boys.

At Api Foou College, there are 120 students in residence. The staff consists of one European and seven Tongans.

Secondary education for girls, apart from Mission, is undeveloped.

No provision is made by the Government for the education of European children. The Missions have schools which the children attend. In Nukualofa there are small private schools which provide elementary education in English. Instruction of an elementary type only is given.

A scholarship scheme was inaugurated in 1927 under which Tongan students from the secondary schools proceed abroad for higher education. During the year one scholar was studying in Australia, one learning survey work in Fiji and four were students at the Central Medical School, Fiji. The value of the scholarships is from £100 to £150 a year.

Expenditure on educational services amounted to £6,032. This sum is equivalent to 10·5 per cent. of the total expenditure for the year.

No fees are charged in any Government schools.

The following fees are charged at Mission schools:—

Wesleyan Mission. Secondary Schools only. Boys—£1 per annum. Girls—£2 per annum.

Roman Catholic Mission. Schools at Nukualofa in Tongatabu and Neiafu in Vavau. One shilling per week.

Latter Day Saints Mission. Secondary school only, 10s. per annum.

No fees are charged at the other schools of these Missions nor at the schools conducted by the Anglican Mission, the Seventh Day Adventist Mission and the Free Church of Tonga.

During the year 1931 an Education Commission was appointed to report, *inter alia,* upon the present administration of the Education Department, with special reference to the supervision and inspection of primary schools, the training of teachers, and the suitability or otherwise of the primary school syllabus. A recommendation of the Commission that primary school work should, so far as possible, be transferred to the Missions, assisted by grants-in-aid, has been approved in Parliament, but action has not yet been taken.

The Government of Tonga contributes to the funds of the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies.

Games play an important part in Tongan school life The Tongan is a keen rugby footballer and cricketer and a particularly good tennis player. The sports meeting between Tonga College and Tubou College is one of the big events of Tongan social life. At the girls' school basket ball is extensively played.

The Tongan is an accomplished musician. Brass and string bands exist in most of the principal towns.

The Tongan is much interested in concerts at which European and Tongan items are performed. Considerable ability is displayed in staging simple plays which are frequently included in concert programmes.

On account of the nature of the Tongan polity it is unnecessary to make any provision for orphanages or for the maintenance of persons incapacitated by sickness or accident or for the aged. In all cases care and maintenance devolve upon the relatives who assume responsibility as a matter of course.

During the year 1931 a " European Aid Society " was formed in Nukualofa, having for its object the assistance of aged Europeans. The society is a voluntary one and is kept in funds by small uniform subscriptions from residents. It represents a modest effort on the part of Europeans to render assistance to deserving cases which arise in the community.

XI.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

A regular four-weekly subsidized cargo service between Nukualofa and Auckland was maintained during the year by a steamer of the Union Steamship Company. The vessel had accommodation for 39 passengers. The route followed is Auckland, Rarotonga, Tonga, Samoa, Fiji, Auckland. During the cool season (May to October) the vessel proceeds to Tonga direct from Auckland. In addition six vessels visited the Protectorate during the year for copra cargoes. Of these, two were British and four Swedish.

Four tourist vessels visited Nukualofa during the year.

The total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared at the two ports of entry amounted to 66,801. Of this total 51,312 were British, 12,430 Swedish, and 2,342 Panamanian.

Inter-insular communication is maintained by a Japanese auxiliary ketch. It is a small ship fitted with a semi-diesel engine.

Roads.

There are approximately 45 miles of metalled road in Tongatabu and 14 miles in Vavau suitable for motor traffic. The by-roads are graded earth roads; they are unsuitable for heavy traffic during rains.

There are no railways in the islands.

Telephones and Wireless.

The Tongan Government maintains a wireless station at Nukualofa and sub-stations at Vavau, Ha'apai, Niuafoou, and Niuatobutabu. The sub-stations communicate only with the main station. Nukualofa radio communicates with New Zealand, Samoa, and Fiji and thence to all parts of the world. The service with New Zealand was inaugurated in April, 1935, and is conducted on short wave by the Nukualofa and Wellington fixed stations. The sub-stations are equipped with locally-built continuous wave valve transmitters rated at 20 watts input. The power supplied for the valves is furnished by a battery of Leclanche type primary cells. The sub-stations are operated by Tongans who receive training locally. The new system has worked satisfactorily.

The following table shows the traffic handled during the year and the revenue received.

Station.	*Messages.*	*Received.*	*Despatched.*	*Revenue.*
				£
Nukualofa ...	Government	—	129	34
	Ordinary	1,560	1,606	422
Vavau	Government	71	58	33
	Ordinary	795	837	190
Ha'apai	Government	45	40	20
	Ordinary	481	593	114
Niuafoou	Government	13	16	14
	Ordinary	115	293	40
Niuatobutabu ...	Government	21	18	15
	Ordinary	91	136	26

Other services (unpaid): Messages, 3,231; Words, 42,244
Messages, 10,059; Words, 110,372; Revenue, £908

The terminal charges of the Nukualofa radio for all Tongan stations is 6d. per word from abroad. The inter-insular charge is 4d.

There is a telephone system in Nukualofa which is administered by the Superintendent of Telegraphs. There are 80 subscribers.

The following statement shows the total revenue and expenditure on wireless and telephone services during the year:—

	£
Revenue—Wireless fees	908
Telephone fees	197
	1,105
	£
Expenditure—Personal emoluments	1,383
Other charges	394
	1,777

The wireless operators in the sub-stations perform also the duties of district clerks and are paid from the vote of the department to which they are attached.

Fifty broadcast receiving sets were licensed during the year. Australian, New Zealand, North American, Mexican, Japanese and Fiji stations are heard throughout the year provided weather conditions are not unfavourable.

The main European, American, Japanese and Australian short wave stations are regularly received. The times of reception are early morning, late afternoon and night.

As regards the Empire Broadcasting Service the transmission best received locally is No. 4—the African Transmission. This is heard from the opening of the Transmission, 5.45 a.m. Tongan time, and held until about 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. in the Tongan hot and cool seasons, respectively.

Transmission No. 6 is heard from approximately 3.45 p.m. until 4.20 p.m. when the Transmission closes.

Transmission No. 1, which is intended for evening reception in the Pacific, is received well locally, during the winter months.

It can be stated that there is seldom a day throughout the year when it is not possible to receive the Empire news from either Transmission No. 4 or No. 6.

Posts.

Foreign mails were despatched throughout the year by Union Steamship Company boats and copra vessels.

Collectors of Customs at Nukualofa and Vavau act as postmasters at these ports. There are sub-post offices in some of the main villages of Tongatabu. British postal-orders are issued at the chief post offices. Money-orders are also issued. During the year the total value of stamps sold amounted to £1,478. Money-orders to a value of £2,056 were issued and orders to a value of £481 paid. Postal-orders issued and paid amounted in value to £198 and £23 respectively.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The Works Department of the Government of Tonga has been reduced, for financial reasons, to a skeleton staff and now consists of one European Officer assisted by a Tongan staff. Works beyond the capacity of the Department are carried out by contractors from abroad or by arrangement with the Public Works Department of Fiji. In addition to maintenance work on buildings and roads a new building for the Government Stores was erected.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

Justice.

There are two jurisdictions in Tonga, the British and the Tongan.

The British Agent holds a commission as a Deputy Commissioner of His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner's Court for the Western Pacific. He is a Judicial Commissioner in Divorce. Under the provisions of the Treaty of 1900, jurisdiction in civil matters is exercised by the British Court over British subjects and foreigners. The British Court has jurisdiction in probate and divorce matters where British subjects and foreigners are parties. In criminal cases British subjects and foreigners charged with an offence against the laws of Tonga, not including crimes punishable by death or by imprisonment exceeding two years, are amenable to the jurisdiction of the Courts of Tonga. The reserved cases are justiciable in the British Court.

The jurisdiction of the British Court is exercised in conformity with the provisions of the Pacific Order in Council, 1893. The principles of British law, so far as circumstances admit, are applied. The judicial work of the British Agent is light. During the year two criminal and five civil cases were heard and determined. No grants of probate or letters of administration issued.

The Courts of the Tongan Government have full jurisdiction over Tongans and the limited jurisdiction stated above over British subjects and foreigners. The Tongan judicial system is based on the British model, and trial by jury, in cases where the accused are Tongans, is provided for in the Constitution.

The Justice Department of the Government of Tonga consists of the Chief Justice, who acts also as Land Judge and as European Magistrate, and three Tongan Magistrates. The Supreme Court exercises jurisdiction in all civil cases in which the amount claimed exceeds £50 and in all criminal cases where the maximum penalty exceeds a fine of £50 or two years' imprisonment; other cases are heard in the Magistrates' Courts. Where the person charged is a European the case is heard and determined in the European Magistrate's Court if it comes within magisterial jurisdiction; other cases are tried by the Chief Justice sitting with two European assessors.

The Land Court Judge, sitting with a Tongan assessor, hears and determines land claims.

Serious crime among the Tongan people is of infrequent occurrence.

The following table shows the number of indictments which have been tried by the Chief Justice during the last five years:—

Year.	*Number of Indictments.*	*Convictions.*
1933	22	14
1934	33	27
1935	28	24
1936	48	38
1937	59	48

The following table shows the number of criminal cases heard and determined in the Magistrates' Courts during the last five years:—

Year.	*Number of cases.*	*Convictions.*	*Acquittals.*
1933	2,668	1,854	647
1934	3,334	2,274	821
1935	3,264	2,349	721
1936	3,362	2,421	727
1937	3,590	2,562	768

Fifty-seven cases were committed for trial.

The majority of criminal cases heard in the Magistrates' Courts were for minor municipal and traffic offences.

The following table shows the number of convictions recorded during the last five years for the cases dealt with in the Magistrates' Courts other than municipal and traffic offences:—

Offence.	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*	*1937.*
Theft	117	137	114	150	150
Trespass	23	44	33	77	100
Other offences against property	18	2	1	4	19
Assault	79	104	107	122	175
Fighting	16	31	34	25	22
Cruelty to animals ...	87	64	109	83	82

The various punishments imposed during the year in respect of convictions in the Magistrates' Courts were as follows:—fines, 2,344; imprisonment for non-payment of fines, 1,039; peremptory imprisonment, 131; whipping or whipping and imprisonment, 75.

There is a considerable amount of civil litigation among the Tongans. During the year no civil cases came before the Supreme Court but 1,170 actions were heard in the Magistrates' Courts.

There is an appeal from a Magistrate's decision to the Chief Justice in all civil cases and in every criminal case except when the defendant pleads guilty.

During the year the Chief Justice heard 30 appeals, 23 criminal and seven civil. In the criminal appeals the sentences and fines imposed by the Magistrates were affirmed in twelve cases, three were remitted for rehearing, five were varied and three appeals were allowed. In the civil appeals the decisions of the Magistrates were upheld in three cases, two were remitted to the Magistrates for rehearing and two appeals were allowed.

The Supreme Court heard 21 cases in Divorce. Decrees absolute were granted in each case.

The Supreme Court in its probate jurisdiction granted letters of administration in 78 cases. The number of grants of probate or letters of administration which issued out of the Court during the last five years were as follows:—1933, 97; 1934, 72; 1935, 67; 1936, 95; and 1937, 78.

The total value of estates in 1937 was £5,066.

There are 22 Tongan lawyers practising in the Courts. Licences to practise are issued by the Chief Justice. There is no educational qualification imposed, but the Chief Justice has a discretionary power to refuse to issue a licence to undesirable persons.

Police.

The Police Department is in charge of a Tongan Minister who is also the Public Prosecutor. The Department has a strength of one European inspector, three Tongan inspectors, and 38 non-commissioned officers and men. The Tongan police, when called upon to do so, assist His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner's Court in making arrests and enforcing judgments.

The total expenditure of the force for all services was £4,213. The cost of the police per head of the population was 2s. 3d.

The number of persons prosecuted by the police for offences of all kinds during the last five years is as follows:—1933, 2,531; 1934, 3,253; 1935, 2,942; 1936, 3,199; 1937, 3,540. The great majority of these prosecutions were for offences of a trivial nature.

All traffic is controlled by the force, which carries out the registration of motor vehicles and the examination of drivers.

In addition to ordinary police duties the force is responsible for the inspection of villages and road frontages and the taking of the annual census.

Prisons.

The Minister of Police is in charge of the Prisons. There is a main gaol at Nukualofa with sub-gaols at Ha'apai, Vavau, and the two Niuas. There is also a sub-gaol on the Government Agricultural station at Vaikeli where prisoners grow foodstuffs for the Prison and Police Departments. Juvenile offenders are confined in the latter sub-gaol apart from adult prisoners. Crime among juveniles is very rare. All prisoners undergoing a sentence of over six months' imprisonment are confined in the Nukualofa gaol. The number of prisoners in custody on 1st January and 31st December in Nukualofa gaol was 129 and 130, respectively.

The main gaol at Nukualofa consists of two main wooden buildings, a women's gaol, and a hospital. There is no provision for the confinement of prisoners in separate cells.

The sub-gaols consist of small wooden buildings suitable for local requirements.

Prisoners are visited regularly by the Medical Officer. The health of the prisoners throughout the year was satisfactory.

Prisoners may earn remission of sentence by industry accompanied by good conduct. The maximum remission for prisoners undergoing a first term of imprisonment is one-quarter of the sentence.

Orders for payments of fines made in the Magistrates' Courts are not enforced for 14 days after the making of the order. If the law under which the order is made does not provide for

imprisonment in default of payment a warrant of distress is then issued. In default of distress a warrant of commitment issues ordering a defendant to be imprisoned in respect of the sum still remaining unsatisfied by the distress for any term not exceeding the term specified in respect of a like sum in the scale of imprisonment provided in the Magistrates Act.

Provision is made in Tongan law for the probation of offenders when any person is convicted of an offence, and the Court is of opinion, having regard to the character, age, health or mental condition of the person charged, or to the trivial nature of the offence, or to the extenuating circumstances under which it was committed, that it is inexpedient to inflict any other than a nominal punishment, or that it is expedient to release the offender on probation, the Court may, in lieu of imposing a sentence of imprisonment, make an order discharging the offender conditionally on his entering into recognizance, with or without securities, to be of good behaviour and to appear for sentence when called upon at any time during such period not exceeding three years as may be specified in the order. When a probation order is made the Court is required to furnish the offender with a notice in writing stating in simple terms the conditions he is required to observe.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Four Acts were passed at the 1937 Session of the Tongan Parliament. The only important Act was:—

The Education Films (Exemption from Duty) Act, (Amendment) Act, 1937. This Act provides for the exemption from Customs Duty of Educational Films.

XV.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

A Government Savings Bank was established in 1926. The following statistics show the operations of the Bank since its institution:—

Year.	*Deposits.*	*Withdrawals.*
	£	£
1926	3,495	558
1927	7,929	3,900
1928	12,341	9,717
1929	11,359	8,528
1930	23,689	14,228
1931	15,930	11,358
1932	19,763	15,546
1933	10,578	15,303
1934	17,649	18,797
1935	10,005	16,310
1936	12,519	10,967
1937	9,660	10,602

The total amount at the credit of depositors at the end of the year was £20,242.

The number of depositors at the end of the year was:—

Tongans	1,434
Europeans and others	200

Interest at the rate of 2¾ per cent. was allowed on the first £500 deposited and at the rate of 2½ per cent. for an additional amount up to £1,000.

The invested funds of the Bank amount to £21,083.

There is no other Bank in Tonga.

There are no Building, Co-operative, or Friendly Societies.

Currency.

British and Australian coin was made the currency of Tonga by a Statute passed by the Tongan Parliament in 1906. Tongan Government notes were issued in 1919; at the present time notes to the value of £25,073 are in circulation. The issue is secured by an investment reserve. The Treasury Notes Act, 1935, adopts the exchange standard system based on Australian Currency.

Weights and Measures.

British weights and measures are, by Statute, the standard weights and measures of the country.

XVI.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The Tongan financial year ends on 30th June. The revenue and expenditure totals for each of the last five years are as follows:—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1932-3	64,072	60,347
1933-4	54,743	64,620
1934-5	61,654	55,515
1935-6	66,660	49,904
1936-7	73,471	55,938

There is no public debt, and at the close of the last financial year the surplus funds amounted to £168,008 (Tongan Currency). These funds are invested in New Zealand, Australian, Straits Settlements, Uganda, Northern Rhodesia, Kenya and Nigeria Stock, and in fixed deposits with the Bank of New Zealand in Sydney and Auckland.

The main heads of taxation are the native tax, Customs dues, and trading licences.

The following table shows the yield of the Customs dues and native tax during the last five years:—

Year.	*Customs.*	*Native Tax.*
	£	£
1932-3	22,459	11,673
1933-4	20,181	9,437
1934-5	21,823	13,824
1935-6	25,710	13,401
1936-7	32,697	13,620

The tariff was revised in 1933 so as to introduce preferential duties for goods of Empire origin. The general tariff is 20 per cent. *ad valorem*; the preferential rate is 12½ per cent. Specific duties are applied to a few articles.

The principal specific duties are as follows:—

Article.	*General tariff.*	*British preferential tariff.*
	s. d.	s. d.
Beer, per gal.	2 0	1 6
Benzine, per gal.	4	4
Cigarettes, per lb.	10 0	8 0
Flour, per 150 lb.	4 6	2 3
Kerosene of 150 degrees or over closed flash test, per gal.	3	3
Spirits of all kinds, of which the strength can be ascertained by Sykes hydrometer and which is proof or overproof—per proof gal.	34 0	28 0
Spirits of all kinds, of which the strength can be ascertained by Sykes hydrometer and which is underproof—per proof gal. ...	29 0	23 0
Sugar, per lb.	1	0½
Timber, undressed, per 100 sq. ft.	2 0	1 6
Timber, dressed, per 100 sq ft.	2 6	2 0
Tobacco, manufactured, per lb.	7 0	5 0

The principal articles on the free list are:—

Bags, new, for copra.
Agricultural machinery and implements.

There is an export tax on copra of £1 per ton.

There are no excise duties.

The principal stamp duties on documents are:—

Agreement or memorandum of agreement (whether the same be evidence of a contract or obligatory upon the parties from its being a written document)—	
Where the value amounts to £1 but does not exceed £3	2
Where the value exceeds £3 but does not exceed £10	1 0
Where the value exceeds £10 then for every additional £10 and also for every part of £10 (but not to exceed 10s. on any such document)	2 0
Bill of lading and each copy	1 0

	s.	d.
Bill of exchange—		
(1) Payable on demand or at sight or on presentation		2
(2) Payable otherwise than on demand, sight, or presentation, drawn or expressed to be payable in or actually paid or endorsed in any manner negotiated in the Kingdom—		
For any sum not exceeding £50	1	0
For every additional £50 and also for every fractional part of £50	1	0
Promissory note of any kind (except a Bank note or Currency note)—		
For any sum not exceeding £5		2
Exceeding £5 but not exceeding £25		6
For every additional £25 and also for every fractional part of £25		6
(Exemptions—All bills of exchange or promissory notes issued by any Bank for Government purposes to the Treasurer.)		
Lease of agreement for a lease or any written document for the tenancy or occupancy of any land or buildings—		
The following duties in respect of the rent at the rate per annum—		
Where the rent does not exceed £25	2	0
Where the rent exceeds £25 and does not exceed £50	5	0
Above £50, for every £50, and also for every fractional part of £50	5	0
Conveyance or transfer—		
(1) Of any lease	5	0
(2) On sale of any goods whether included in a transfer of a lease or not for every £50 and also for every fractional part of £50	2	0
Mortgage, bond, debenture, or covenant—		
(1) Being the only or principal or primary security for the payment or repayment of any money not exceeding £50	2	0
For every additional £50 and also for every fractional part of £50	2	0
(2) Transfer or assignment of any mortgage, bond, debenture, or covenant, and also where any further money is added to the money secured.	(The same rate of duty as (1).)	
(3) Being a collateral, or auxiliary, or additional, or substituted security, or by way of further assurance for the above-mentioned purposes—		
Where the principal or primary security is duly stamped	2	0
(4) Re-conveyance, release, or discharge of any such security as aforesaid or the benefit thereof, or of the money thereby secured	2	0

	s.	d.
Receipt—		
Given for or upon the payment of money—		
Amounting to £2 or upwards but not exceeding £50 ...		2
Exceeding £50 or upwards but not exceeding £100 ...		4
Exceeding £100		6

(Exemptions—Receipts given for or upon the payment of money to or for the use of the Government of Tonga; receipts or discharges given by any person for the payment of wages or salary; receipts given for contributions for charitable institutions or religious bodies.)

All male Tongans, when they attain the age of 16 years, pay a poll tax of 36s. per annum. The tax is paid in quarterly instalments. The yield of the tax during the last five years is set out above. A register of taxpayers is kept by the district tax clerk. The register is revised annually from a list of taxpayers prepared by the District Officer. The tax is paid to the district clerk by the taxpayer. Exemption from the tax may be granted on the grounds of old age or sickness.

There is no hut tax.

APPENDIX A.

Meteorological Summary for the Year 1937.

Extremes and means for the year.

(Observations made at 20.00 G.M.T.)

NUKUALOFA. (Lat. 21° 08′ S. Long. 175° 12′ W.)

Barometer :
Highest, 30·196 on 1st October.
Lowest, 29·440 on 25th February.
Mean, 29·939.

Humidity :
Highest, 99·0 per cent. on 26th February.
Lowest, 44·5 per cent. on 9th May.
Mean, 78·0 per cent.

Temperature :
Highest, 88·7° on 20th February.
Lowest, 52·8° on 15th August.
Mean, 74·8°.

Rainfall : 66·16 inches.

Number of days on which rain fell : 169.

Most rain in any 24-hour period : 7·18 inches on 25th February.

Prevailing direction of wind : East.

Cyclonic disturbances : Hurricane : 24th–25th February.

Whole gale : 21st February.

Gales : 8th June and 11th–12th August.

24th–25th February, 1937. Lowest barometer 28·902. Wind S.S.E. through E. to N.E. by E. Maximum velocity 85 m.p.h.

21st February, 1937. Lowest barometer 29·286. Wind N.N.W. to W. Maximum velocity 60 m.p.h.

8th June, 1937. Lowest barometer 29·65. Wind E.N.E. through N. to N.W. Maximum velocity 39 m.p.h.

11th–12th August, 1937. Lowest barometer 29·45. Wind S.E. to E., then backed to S.E. by S. Maximum velocity 40 m.p.h.

HA'APAI. (Lat. 19° 49′ S. Long. 174° 21′ W.)

Barometer :
Highest, 30·168 on 11th September.
Lowest, 29·426 on 24th February.
Mean, 29·934.

Humidity :
Highest, 98·5 per cent. on 17th October.
Lowest, 48·0 per cent. on 9th May.
Mean, 76·2 per cent.

Temperature :
Highest, 93·0° on 7th February.
Lowest, 59·9° on 23rd September.
Mean, 78·1°.

Rainfall : 50·88 inches.

Number of days on which rain fell : 144.

Most rain in any 24-hour period : 3·63 inches on 1st March.

Prevailing direction of wind : East.

Cyclonic Disturbances : Gales : 21st–22nd February. 24th February. 11th–12th August.

21st–22nd February, 1937. Lowest barometer 29·504. Wind N.W. through W. to S.W. Maximum velocity 39 m.p.h.

24th February, 1937. Lowest barometer, 29·266. Wind S.S.W. through W. to W.N.W. Maximum velocity 45 m.p.h.

11th–12th February, 1937. Lowest barometer 29·589. Wind E.N.E. through N. to W. by S. Maximum velocity 39 m.p.h.

VAVAU. (Lat. 18° 39′ S. Long. 173° 59′ W.)

Barometer :

Highest, 30·158 on 12th September.
Lowest, 29·543 on 24th February.
Mean, 29·923.

Humidity :

Highest, 97·0 per cent. on 22nd August.
Lowest, 50·8 per cent. on 31st October.
Mean, 75·7 per cent.

Temperature :

Highest, 90·6° on 21st February.
Lowest, 62·0° on 21st June.
Mean, 78·2°.

Rainfall : 68·51 inches.

Number of days on which rain fell : 190.

Most rain in any 24-hour period : 6·32 inches on 2nd March.

Prevailing direction of wind : East.

NIUATOBUTABU. (Lat. 15° 58′ S. Long. 173° 47′ W.)

Barometer :

Highest, 30·079 on 13th September.
Lowest, 29·643 on 24th February.
Mean, 29·896.

Humidity :

Highest, 98·5 per cent. on 30th August.
Lowest, 51·0 per cent. on 23rd September.
Mean, 79·4 per cent.

Temperature :

Highest, 90·4° on 9th and 21st February.
Lowest, 65·0° on 23rd September.
Mean, 80·8°.

Rainfall : 63·63 inches.

Number of days on which rain fell : 169.

Most rain in any 24-hour period : 2·84 inches on 1st December.

Prevailing direction of wind : East.

NIUAFO'OU. (Lat. 15° 34′ S. Long. 173° 38′ W.)

Barometer :

Highest, 30·057 on 1st October.
Lowest, 29·634 on 26th February.
Mean, 29·880.

Humidity :

Highest, 98·5 per cent. on 4th March.
Lowest, 58·1 per cent. on 23rd September.
Mean, 80·0 per cent.

Temperature :

Highest, 92·1° on 17th October.
Lowest, 69·0° on 19th June.
Mean, 81·2°.

Rainfall: 73·20 inches.

Number of days on which rain fell: 187.

Most rain in any 24 hour period: 4·95 inches on 22nd January.

Prevailing direction of wind: East.

Appendix B.

Publications.

Mariner's Account of the Tonga Islands. J. Martin.	Murray. London.	1817.
Missionary Voyage of the Duff, commanded by Capt. James Wilson.	Chapman. London.	1799.
Account of a Voyage in search of La Perouse. J. J. de Labillardiere.	London.	1802.
Diversions of a Prime Minister. Sir B. H. Thomson.	Blackwood. London.	1894 (15s.).
Tongan Society. E. W. Gifford ...	Bishop Museum. Honolulu.	1929.
History and Geography of Tonga. A. H. Wood.	Government Printer. Tonga.	1932.
Annual Colonial Reports	H.M. Stationery Office.	

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Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

THE FINANCIAL POSITION AND SYSTEM OF TAXATION OF KENYA

Report of the Commission [Colonial No. 116] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

THE FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC POSITION OF NORTHERN RHODESIA

Report of the Commission [Colonial No. 145] 7s. (7s. 6d.)

LABOUR CONDITIONS IN NORTHERN RHODESIA

Report by Major G. St. J. Orde Browne, O.B.E.
[Colonial No. 150] 2s. (2s. 3d.)

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Report of Commission [Colonial No. 152] 10s. (10s. 6d.)

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Reports by Mr. J. S. Neill and Duncan Cook, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.
[Colonial No. 155] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE SYSTEM OF APPOINTMENT IN THE COLONIAL OFFICE AND THE COLONIAL SERVICES

Report of Committee [Cmd. 3554 (1930)] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

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Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730 (1934)] 9d. (10d.)

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Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

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Colonial Forest Service List	[Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)
Colonial Legal Service List	[Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)
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Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of the

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(For Report for 1936 see No. 1817 (Price 1s. 3d.) and for Report for 1937 see No. 1869 (Price 9d.).)

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Statement to accompany the Estimates for Colonial and Middle Eastern Services, 1939 [Cmd. 6023] 1s. 6d. (1s. 8d.)

NUTRITION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Economic Advisory Council. Report of Committee.

1st Report—Part I. [Cmd. 6050] 3s. (3s. 4d.)

1st Report—Part II. Summary of Information regarding Nutrition in the Colonial Empire [Cmd. 6051] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

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Survey for 1936 [Colonial No. 149] £1 7s. 6d. (£1 8s. 2d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1938, to 31st March, 1939 [Cmd. 6062] 9d. (10d.)

LOCAL LEGISLATURES IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Return showing the composition, etc. [H. of C. 169, 1937/38] 6d. (7d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF TONGA FOR THE YEAR 1938

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I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Kingdom of Tonga consists of three main groups of islands called respectively Tongatabu, Ha'apai and Vavau, together with the outlying islands of Niuafoou, Niuatobutabu and Tafahi.

The main groups are situated between the 18th and 22nd degrees of South latitude and 173rd and 176th degrees of West longitude, and extend over an area of approximately 250 square miles.

The islands consist of two parallel chains running north and south. The western chain is volcanic in formation and the eastern coralline. With the exception of Tofua and Falcon islands the volcanoes are dormant or extinct.

The island of Niuatobutabu was discovered by the Dutch navigators Schouten and Lemaire in 1616. They did not visit the main groups.

In 1643 Tongatabu was discovered by Tasman, and from that year until 1767, when Wallis anchored in Niuatobutabu, there was no contact with the outside world. Captain Cook visited Tongatabu and the Ha'apai group in 1773, and again in 1777, and named the islands the Friendly Islands. In 1789 Captain Bligh visited the Ha'apai group. It was in the waters of this group that the mutiny on the *Bounty* occurred.

Niuafoou was discovered by Captain Edwards in H.M.S. *Pandora* in the year 1791.

Contact with the outside world was now established.

Climate.

The climate of the Tongan group from May to November is good for the tropics. The thermometer rarely registers higher than 80 degrees and the humidity during these months is, as a rule, relatively low. During the wet season, from December to April, the temperature rarely rises above 90 degrees, but the humidity, especially when the wind is northerly, is high. This season is trying for Europeans. The meteorological summary for the year is appended to this Report.

History.

The early history of Tonga is enshrouded in myth, and any attempt to reconstruct the past is based on the list of the Tui Tonga, the ancient kings. This list has been compiled by ethnologists and dates back to the tenth century. The extent of the dominions of these ancient kings is not clearly known, but there is evidence that they possessed overlordship over a vast area of Polynesia, whence they received tribute. The kingship was hereditary and the power of the Tui Tonga was absolute. About the fifteenth century, after the murder of a Tui Tonga, his successor, while retaining his sacred powers, divested himself of much of his executive authority, which he transferred to his brother, whom he henceforth called the Tui Haatakalaua. At this time it may be said that there were two kings in Tonga, the spiritual and the temporal. About the middle of the seventeenth century the temporal king transferred his executive power to a brother, retaining for himself the presentation of offerings from his people. The new chief was called the Tui Kanokupolu, and succession to the title, though not hereditary, was kept within the family. From the date of the creation of the new

title the powers of the Tui Tonga and the Tui Haatakalaua gradually passed into the hands of the Tui Kanokupolu and in the middle of the nineteenth century, upon the death of the then Tui Tonga, the insignia of the ancient title of the Tui Tonga were conferred upon the Tui Kanokupolu, King George I, the founder of the reigning dynasty. While the evolution of a sacred line of chiefs is not without historic parallel, the double delegation of powers renders difficult the true understanding of the ancient Tongan polity

Evidence remains in modern Tonga of the power of the ancient kings in the form of the stone monuments which still exist. Chief of these is the Haamoga—a trilithon consisting of two large upright coral stones about 16 feet high, with a connecting stone, 19 feet long, laid horizontally across and mortised into the tops of the upright pieces, the visible parts of which are estimated to weigh between 30 and 40 tons. It was probably erected about the thirteenth century. Tradition is not consistent as to the reason which impelled the then Tui Tonga to erect this monument, but it is evidentiary of an absolute power. Its state of preservation is excellent. Other evidence of the powers of the ancient kings is to be found in the langis, the royal burial grounds which still exist in Tonga. They consist of quadrilateral mounds, faced by huge blocks of stone, rising sometimes in terraces to a height of 20 feet. The stones are coral, of immense weight, and can only have been placed in position by the concerted labour of a large body of men skilled in the use of rollers and levers. The stones out of which the monuments were constructed were probably quarried from the coral reefs, though there is a strong traditionary evidence that many of them came from distant Polynesian islands.

From the close of the eighteenth century the history of Tonga can be obtained from the chronicles of Europeans who visited the islands or from European missionary sources. During the first half of the nineteenth century the islands were the scene of civil wars. These were finally checked during the reign of King George I who had by conquest gathered all power in his own hands. He was finally proclaimed King in 1845. King George I came strongly under missionary influence and, though his rule was absolute, he determined to grant a Constitution, based on the English model, to the Tongans. This Constitution granted over 50 years ago, has been from time to time amended, yet in essentials the present Constitution differs little from the original. King George died in 1893, at the age of 96, after a memorable reign of nearly 50 years. He was the creator of modern Tonga. He was succeeded by his great-grandson, King George II. The present monarch, Queen Salote Tubou, D.B.E., succeeded to the throne on the death of her father King George II in 1918.

A Protectorate was proclaimed over Tonga in 1900 and a British Agent appointed.

The language of the group is Tongan, though the laws and Government Gazettes are published in both English and Tongan.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

Under the Constitution of Tonga the Government is divided into three bodies, the Queen, Privy Council, and Cabinet; the Legislative Assembly; and the Judiciary. The chief executive body is the Queen-in-Council, and executive decisions of lesser import are taken in Cabinet over which the Premier presides. The law-making power is vested in the Assembly which consists of the members of the Privy Council, seven nobles elected by their peers, and seven representatives elected by the people. Elections are held triennially. A limited law-making power is vested in the Privy Council; any legislation passed by the Executive is subject to review at the next meeting of the Legislature. At present the technical and financial departments are administered by European members of the Tonga civil service, and Tongan ministers control the other departments. The northern group of islands, Ha'apai and Vavau, together with the outlying islands are administered by Tongan Governors who are members of, and responsible to, the Executive. Minor Tongan officials perform statutory duties in connection with the village life of the people.

No constitutional changes took place during the year.

III.—POPULATION.

The Tongan population at the Census taken in April, 1938, was 32,490. The increase in the population during the year ending April, 1938, was 2·32 per cent., compared with ·47 per cent. for 1937.

The Census figures for other races are as follows:—

Europeans	407
Half-castes	477
Other Pacific Islanders	302
Others...	109

The incidence of the non-Tongan population has not varied appreciably during the last 10 years.

The average density of population for all races is 135·14 per square mile.

The following figures show the vital statistics of the Tongan population for the five years ending 31st December last:—

Year.	*Number of births.*	*Birth-rate per mille*
1934	1,191	38·88
1935	1,194	37·90
1936	1,230	38·21
1937	1,173	35·70
1938	1,355	40·39

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As regards the sexes of the children born the following table shows the proportion for the last five years:—

Year.	*Males.*	*Females.*
1934	1,000·0	1,013·5
1935	1,027·1	1,000
1936	1,157·1	1,000
1937	1,094·6	1,000
1938	1,104·03	1,000

The illegitimate births amounted to 273. The following table shows the proportion of illegitimate births to every 100 births during the last five years:—

Year.	*Percentage.*
1934	17·96
1935	20·10
1936	20·30
1937	19·35
1938	20·14

The following table shows the number of deaths and the death-rate for the last five years:—

Year.	*Number of Deaths.*	*Death-rate.*
1934	430	14·03
1935	399	12·71
1936	529	16·25
1937	479	14·58
1938	451	13·14

The following table shows the infant mortality rate for the last five years:—

Year.	*In per mille of Births.*
1934	71·30
1935	91·60
1936	95·93
1937	100·59
1938	73·06

The following table sets out the total number of marriages performed and the marriage rate for the last five years:—

Year.	*Total Number.*	*Rate per mille of population.*
1934	188	6·13
1935	229	7·11
1936	229	7·11
1937	295	8·79
1938	246	7·14

The Chief Justice of Tonga is the Registrar-General of births, marriages, and deaths of Tongan subjects. Registration in the case of British subjects and foreigners is provided for under the provisions of the Pacific Order in Council, 1893, and Regulations made thereunder, and is effected at the office of the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

IV.—HEALTH.

The Medical Department of the Government of Tonga consists of two medical officers, a dentist, a European nurse, seven Tongan medical practitioners, two sanitary inspectors and a Tongan subordinate staff. Five Tongan nurses are on the staff at Nukualofa Hospital. Three Tongan students are studying at the Central Medical School, Suva, Fiji.

An additional sanitary inspector was appointed and provision was made for the appointment of a European pharmacist and a child welfare nurse but the posts were not filled before the end of the calendar year.

The Tongans receive free medical attention. Other patients are charged fees on a scale laid down by the Executive. Fees are paid direct into revenue. The dentist receives a retaining fee from the Government. Tongans receive free treatment in cases of extractions and temporary stoppings. They are also treated freely for pyorrhoea, the incidence of which is heavy.

Provision was made for an expenditure of £8,667 on medical and health services. This sum is equivalent to 13·45 per cent. of the estimated revenue for the year. There are three hospitals in Tonga. The main hospital at Nukualofa is well equipped to meet the needs of the community. It consists of two European and four Tongan wards, two maternity wards, and a dispensary. An infectious diseases ward to accommodate 25 beds was approaching completion at the end of the year. The hospital has a portable X-ray outfit. The other hospitals are in Haapai and Vavau. They are suitable for local requirements.

In recording statistical information as to the prevalence of disease it follows that the figures refer only to the home life of the people and the question of disease caused by work in factories or mines does not arise:—

Disease.	*Number of cases during the year.*
Tetanus	16
Leprosy	2
Conjunctivitis	289
Trachoma	131
Typhoid fever	175
Yaws	576
Dysentery	38
Tuberculosis	282
Pneumonia	65
Puerperal fever...	8
Intestinal parasites	143
Varicella	30
Gonorrhoea	66
Actinomycosis	2

Comparative figures of reported cases of typhoid are as follows:—

Year.	*Number of cases.*
1934	142
1935	112
1936	206
1937	244
1938	175

The incidence of typhoid increased in December. By the end of the year about 700 persons were innoculated with Typhoid Paratyphoid Vaccine and the innoculations were continued. Regulations were passed empowering the Medical Authorities to compel the removal of typhoid patients to hospital.

Comparative figures of reported cases of dysentery are as follows:—

Year.	*Number of cases.*
1934	56
1935	46
1936	66
1937	459
1938	38

The incidence of dysentery showed a marked decrease on previous years. All cases were apparently bacillary in type.

Comparative figures of reported cases of tuberculosis are as follows:—

Year.	*Number of cases.*
1934	106
1935	131
1936	71
1937	120
1938	282

Tuberculosis shows an apparent increase over previous years but this is probably due to more intensive search by the Medical Authorities. Many bacteriological and X-ray examinations were made during the year.

Comparative figures of reported cases of yaws are as follows:—

Year.	*Number of cases.*
1934	594
1935	988
1936	502
1937	723
1938	576

All reported cases of yaws were treated by the Medical Officers mostly with Novarsenobillon.

During June there was a widespread epidemic of catarrhal "colds" with some bronchitis and pneumonia. There were 2,223 cases reported many of which appeared to be true influenza.

The principal causes of death, when a member of the Medical Department was in attendance, were:—

	Per cent.		*Per cent.*
Tuberculosis	24·4	Malignant conditions ...	4·6
Cardiac disease	5·0	Pneumonia	8·4
Septicaemia, etc.	5·0	Senility	12·2
Typhoid fever	12·6	Injuries	2·1
Gastro-enteritis	2·1		

The following is a summary of the work performed during the year by the medical staff at the three hospitals:—

	Nukualofa.	*Vavau.*	*Haapai.*
Admissions	380	215	52
Major operations	48	7	15
Minor operations	953	342	35
Confinements	34	6	5
Out-patients:—			
Attendances	41,528	4,431	5,540
Visits	5,674	2,461	763

The figures for two dispensaries in Tongatabu are included in the out-patient department figures of Nukualofa hospital.

The following is a summary of the work performed by the Tongan staff at outlying dispensaries in Niuaoou, Niuatobutabu, Nomuka and Eua:—

Major operations	5
Minor operations	291
Intravenous injections for yaws	213
Attendances as out-patients	7,823
Confinements	53
Visits	1,147

The following is a summary of the work performed during the year by the Dental Department:—

Number of patients	1,614
Extractions	1,946
Fillings	336
Pyorrhoea cases treated	208

The Government dentist visited Niuafoou, Niuatobutabu, Vavau and Haapai during the year.

The value of institutional treatment of maternity cases is becoming appreciated by the Tongans. There were 700 attendances at the ante-natal clinic at Nukualofa Hospital, and 70 at Vavau Hospital during the year.

Forty-five maternity cases were attended in the hospitals and 279 cases were attended outside the hospitals by the medical staff.

Regular inspection of the villages in Tongatabu was carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors. Each village was visited several times and considerable improvement in the sanitary condition was effected. Particular attention was paid to the disposal of rubbish, and to measures for the elimination of mosquitoes. In other parts of the Kingdom periodic inspections were made by

the Medical Officer or Tongan Medical Practitioner. The use of cement latrines of a standard pattern approved by the Board of Health is compulsory. There are no rivers or streams in Tonga and for drinking purposes rain water is conserved in cement tanks, in many cases the roofs of houses, or churches, serving as catchments. During periods of drought many people may have to depend on well water. The village water tanks are subject to inspection by the Medical Authorities.

V.—HOUSING.

The Tongan native house is built with reed sides and thatched roof. It is illegal to build a house less than 12 ft. in length and proportionately broad. The average size, however, is approximately 20 ft. long and 12 ft. broad. The native kitchen is merely a shelter built apart from the dwelling-house. Ordinary pots are used for cooking purposes, but on special occasions food is always prepared in a native oven. This consists of a pit about 3 ft. deep which is lined with stones. The stones are heated by means of a flue and the food—pork, fish, or fowl, and native root crops—is baked among the stones, which are covered with leaves and earth.

The Tongan in later years has shown a preference for the European style of house and, according to the Census figures of 1938, approximately one-third of the houses are now of wooden construction with corrugated iron roofs. These cottages consist of one or more rooms and verandah. While they lack the picturesqueness of the native house they are easier to maintain. The tendency to prefer the European type of house is accentuated by the fact that the supply of wood and thatching materials suitable for house building is limited. Economic depression has, however, checked the substitution of the wooden house for the thatched cottage and the houses built in recent years are mostly of native construction. There is no housing problem in Tonga and a wage-earning class may be said not to exist, as the people are peasant proprietors. The houses are the property of the people. Legal provision is made for an annual inspection of houses and if any house is found to be in bad repair or badly drained it is lawful for the Tongan District Officer to order the owner to rebuild or provide proper drainage. Provision is also made for the weeding of the land around the houses and an inspection is made in the towns every two months to ensure that town sites are kept clean.

VI.—NATURAL RESOURCES.

Tonga is purely an agricultural country. The Tongan is a peasant proprietor and cultivates in person the area of land granted to him to which reference is made below. Most of the production is confined to Tongans. There are a few European

leaseholds which produce copra but the quantity produced is comparatively negligible. All but a small proportion of the cultivable land may be said to be under cultivation in that it comes under the cycle of cultivation employed by the Tongan peasant. This cycle consists of one year's cultivation followed by two or more years rest to renew the fertility of the soil. Apart from the area permanently planted with coconuts approximately one-third of the area used for cultivation is actually under crop at any one time. There are no large areas of land awaiting development but production can be greatly increased in the future by the adoption of improved methods of cultivation.

There are no forests of appreciable extent in Tonga and no minerals of any description have yet been discovered. There are no fisheries, mines or factories. The chief product of Tonga is copra.

The total production of copra is unknown but it is estimated that at least 20 per cent. of the crop is consumed locally. Coconuts are extensively used by the Tongans for cooking and drinking purposes and for feeding pigs and fowls. During periods of food shortage the percentage consumed locally materially increases. Other products are bananas, citrus fruits, pineapples, yams, sweet potatoes (kumaras), tapioca and taro, horses, cattle, pigs, goats and poultry. Apart from bananas, which are referred to below, there is no appreciable export trade in any of these products. Total production figures are not available, but there are estimated to be over 3 million coconut palms. The numbers of different classes of livestock are as follows:—Horses, 5,531; cattle, 3,092; goats, 6,278; pigs, 23,928; poultry, 64,048.

Since 1932, bananas have been exported to New Zealand under a quota system instituted by the New Zealand Government. In 1933 Tonga was allotted 20 per cent. of the total Fiji-Tonga quota. The amount of the quota varied in the succeeding years in accordance with the demand in New Zealand. Owing to adverse weather conditions only 10,795 cases were shipped during the year. European vegetables are grown in small quantities for local consumption.

All lands in Tonga are the property of the Crown. From these lands certain areas are prescribed by law for the use of the Reigning Sovereign and of the Royal Family. Other areas are prescribed as hereditary estates of the Nobles and Matabules. The Sovereign may, with the consent of the Privy Council and subject to the provisions of the Land Act, grant from the Crown. Lands hereditary estates to Nobles and Matabules. Every Tongan male on reaching the age of 16 years is entitled to receive a grant of 8¼ acres of land as a tax allotment and a residential site not exceeding one rood, 24 perches as a

town allotment. These allotments are granted by the Government either from Crown Lands or from the hereditary estates of the Nobles and Matabules. A grant of 12⅜ acres of agricultural land may be made in lieu of the tax and town allotments specified above. The holder of an allotment of 12⅜ acres pays a rental of 4s. a year and the holder of a tax allotment pays a rental of 8s. a year to the holder of the hereditary estate, if the allotment is situated in an hereditary estate, or to the Government if the allotment is situated on Crown Land. No rental is payable for town allotments. Allotments descend to the lineal heirs of the holder but on the death, without lineal descendants, of the holder, the allotments revert to the Crown or to the hereditary estate of the Noble or Matabule as the case may be. The holder of a tax or agricultural allotment may be dispossessed of his land for continual neglect to pay the rent or to cultivate the land. The sale of land is absolutely prohibited but leases may be granted, with the consent of the Cabinet, to Tongans and other nationals. The term of a lease may not exceed 99 years.

Apart from a few European leaseholds all production is in the hands of Tongans and a few natives of other Pacific Islands who are settled in Tonga. Each Tongan cultivates in person his agricultural holding. Legislative provision exists for the planting, cultivation and inspection of holdings and for regulating and making of copra. To improve the grade of copra the Government has introduced a Malayan type of kiln drier and 11 of these kilns were in operation at the end of the year. The copra produced in these kilns fetched the highest local price. The kilns are inexpensive to build and operate and appear well suited to local conditions.

Production is organized only to the extent that each allotment holder is required by law to plant one-half of his allotment in coconuts, which must be 30 ft. apart, and to plant sufficient food crops for the maintenance of himself and his dependants. Allotments are inspected by officers of the Agricultural Department and advice is given on planting and cultivation of crops. Owing to the quota system, to which reference is made above, all bananas for export are purchased from the individual growers and exported to New Zealand by the Government. Copra is sold by the individual growers to local merchants and exporters.

There are no associations or co-operative systems for the production or sale of produce.

The principal exports for the year were:—

	Quantity.	*Value.*
Copra	12,428 tons	£90,399
Bananas	10,795 cases	£3,507

VII.—COMMERCE.

Tonga produces copra, bananas, citrus and other fruits, vegetable food crops, milk, horses, cattle, pigs, goats, poultry, hides, fungus and, intermittently, beche-de-mer. Of these products copra, bananas, hides, fungus, beche-de-mer and small quantities of pineapples and sweet potatoes (kumaras) are exported. Fish are plentiful and continuously used for food but there are no organized fisheries and no export trade. About 20 per cent. of the coconut crop, all bananas produced in excess of the export quota, and all other produce except hides, fungus, and beche-de-mer are used or consumed locally. The principal exports are copra and bananas. During the year 12,427 tons of copra valued at £90,398 and 10,825 cases of bananas valued at £3,507 were exported. These two products represent 97 per cent. of the total value of exports for the year.

No timber, minerals, oils, or manufactured goods are produced in Tonga which is dependent on its imports for machinery, hardware, timber, drapery, cutlery, crockery, benzine, kerosene, lubricating oils, soap, spirits and beer, tobacco, sugar, flour, cordage, bags, tinned goods, coffee, tea, bacon, cheese, medical supplies and to a large extent, butter. The volume of the import trade is very largely governed by the value of the copra exported.

The following tables show the trade position of Tonga:—

Year.	*Total imports.* £	*Domestic exports.* £	*Re-exports.* £
1934	48,526	68,569	1,436
1935	68,782	89,092	819
1936	92,296	113,755	899
1937	137,365	162,931	1,690
1938	82,795	96,803	1,633

The fall in the value of imports during the year was due to the low price of copra. This led to decreased importations by the commercial houses.

Comparative statement of total imports provided by the British Empire and foreign countries respectively with the principal supplying countries:—

	Imports.	
	British Empire. per cent.	*Foreign Countries. per cent.*
1934	81·22	18·78
1935	68·98	31·02
1936	76·26	23·74
1937	74·03	25·97
1938	78·22	21·78

Country.	1934. Per cent.	1935. Per cent.	1936. Per cent.	1937. Per cent.	1938 Per cent.
New Zealand	22·31	23·38	23·73	22·06	20·54
Australia	21·27	18·80	26·66	26·70	24·39
United Kingdom... ...	17·43	11·71	14·36	15·51	18·76
India	10·73	5·62	5·97	3·98	6·51
Fiji	7·75	1·72	2·06	2·16	3·05
Canada	1·20	1·68	2·85	3·04	4·61
United States of America	6·37	9·21	5·89	7·94	8·52
Japan	8·63	12·75	14·40	14·56	9·26

The values of principal imports, with the principal sources of supply:—

Article.	Total value. £	1938. £	Total value. £	1937. £	Country of origin.
Bags, gunny ...	(5,305)	5,305	(5,230)	5,230	India.
Beer	(1,147)	1,024	(1,274)	1,126	Australia.
		8		19	United Kingdom.
		47		42	New Zealand.
		52		70	Germany.
Benzine ...	(1,877)	1,845	(3,626)	3,081	United States of America.
		—		545	Dutch East Indies.
		27		—	Iran.
Biscuits ...	(1,522)	1,024	(1,776)	1,052	Fiji.
		459		670	Australia.
		36		54	New Zealand.
Butter ...	(1,071)	1,063	(1,373)	1,337	New Zealand.
		8		36	Australia.
Cigars and cigarettes.	(426)	117	(433)	212	Australia.
		273		201	United Kingdom.
		25		14	United States of America.
Cordage and rope	(988)	194	(1,420)	480	Australia.
		276		365	United Kingdom.
		191		360	New Zealand.
		236		120	Canada.
		59		75	United States of America.
Drapery ...	(10,328)	2,400	(22,271)	4,123	United Kingdom.
		630		789	New Zealand.
		221		341	Australia.
		6,562		16,535	Japan.
		162		165	United States of America.
Flour	(7,628)	7,578	(14,575)	14,572	Australia.
		50		3	New Zealand.
Galvanized ware	(2,298)	1,468	(2,885)	2,124	United Kingdom.
		535		519	Australia.
		37		44	New Zealand.
		2		46	Japan.
		202		70	Belgium.
		32		47	Germany.
Hardware ...	(2,382)	1,161	(2,882)	1,129	United Kingdom.
		260		342	Australia.
		248		381	New Zealand.
		60		412	Japan.
		356		300	Germany.
		173		194	United States of America.
		37		53	Sweden.

Article.	*Total value.*	*1938.*	*Total value.*	*1937.*	*Country of origin.*
	£	£	£	£	
Meats, tinned	(7,409)	6,648	(20,775)	17,374	New Zealand.
		745		3,336	Australia.
		4		8	United Kingdom.
		—		44	Argentine.
		12		15	United States of America.
Motor cars and parts.	(1,801)	47	(2,908)	1,571	Canada.
		782		738	United Kingdom.
		34		105	Australia.
		43		26	New Zealand.
		894		450	United States of America.
		—		18	Japan.
Soap	(1,988)	1,331	(2,533)	1,647	Fiji.
		319		638	Australia.
		307		216	New Zealand.
		—		18	Japan.
		21		—	United States of America.
Spirits ...	(303)	225	(1,046)	814	United Kingdom.
		14		53	Australia.
		31		156	Holland.
Sugar	(2,754)	436	(3,182)	344	Australia.
		2,259		2,677	New Zealand.
		58		101	Fiji.
		—		60	Dutch East Indies.
Tobacco ...	(1,862)	1,848	(3,679)	3,666	Australia.
		9		12	United States of America.
Timber ...	(3,202)	2,714	(2,553)	1,577	Canada.
		278		458	New Zealand.
		198		518	Australia.

Despite the adverse exchange position (Tongan Currency is on the Australian basis) the percentage of trade with the United Kingdom increased slightly whilst that with Japan showed a considerable decrease. The principal decreases in Japanese imports were in drapery and hardware. Apart from the general decrease in imports due to the low price of copra Japanese imports were affected by the revision of the Customs Tariff granting an increased margin of preference to British Empire goods.

Domestic Exports.

The main domestic export, copra, is shipped to Europe on optional bills of lading and the ultimate destination of the copra is not recorded. It is not, therefore, possible to give statistics of the destination of domestic exports which could accurately reflect the trade position. The country of destination of the second largest export, bananas, is New Zealand. These two products represent 98·7 per cent. of the domestic exports of Tonga.

The values and quantities of principal domestic exports:—

Article.	*1938.* *Quantity*	*Value* £	*1937.* *Quantity*	*Value* £
Copra	... 12,427 tons	90,398	12,288 tons.	158,133
Bananas ...	... 10,825 cases	3,507	13,715 cases	4,128
Fungus ...	... 9 tons	257	6 tons	150
Bêche-de-mer...	... 3½ tons	350	nil	—
Re-exports.				
Cinema films ...	... 122 packages	345	117 packages	405

The imports and exports of coin for the last five years were as follows:—

Year.	*Imports.* £	*Exports.* £
1934	—	7,841
1935	410	800
1936	4,530	1,885
1937	2,425	—
1938	—	—

There was no import or export of notes.

VIII.—LABOUR.

Labour, in the ordinary sense of the term, may be said not to exist in Tonga. The country is, in general, a land of peasant proprietors each man cultivating his own statutory holdings. The plantation system is unknown and there is no recruitment of labour. In the few European leaseholds which exist and in the stores, labour is obtained by the spontaneous offer of services. The relationship between employer and labourer is governed by the principles of common law. There is no contract labour and the number of labourers employed is negligible. There are no mines or factories. Apart from the application to Tonga of the International Labour Convention to provide for the protection against accident of workers employed in loading or unloading ships, no labour legislation has been enacted. The Constitution of Tonga provides that all men may dispose of their labour as they will.

IX.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

It is difficult to draw a comparison between the cost of living in the United Kingdom and Tonga on account of the general difference in conditions. The general tariff on imported goods is 33⅓ per cent. ad valorem and the preferential tariff 12½ per cent.; specific duties are charged on a few articles. Freight charges on imports are high. There is, on the other hand, no income tax. Supplies of fresh meat, milk, eggs, poultry, and ice are obtainable in Nukualofa, the seat of Government.

In the outlying islands fresh meat, milk, and ice are not procurable. Excellent vegetables are obtainable in Nukualofa, except during the months of December to April, at reasonable prices. The following table shows the current prices of certain necessary commodities:—

Sugar	4d. per lb.
Tea	2s. 6d. to 4s. per lb.
Butter	1s. 6d. local; 2s. imported.
Flour	1s. per 5 lb.
Onions	6d. per lb.
Eggs	1s. 6d. to 2s. per doz.
Bacon	2s. per lb.
Ham	2s. per lb.
Bread	6d. per 2-lb. loaf.
Meat	9d. to 1s. per lb.
Poultry	2s. to 3s. a fowl.
Kerosene	10s. per 4-gallon tin.
Benzine	10s. per 4-gallon tin.

The household budget of an official will, on the whole, be approximately 25 to 30 per cent. higher in Tonga than in the United Kingdom.

The number of labourers employed in Tonga is negligible. The Tongan cultivates his own farm. A few Solomon Islanders, Fijians, and Indians work in the stores or on European plantations. The average wage of a store labourer is 3s. a day with two meals. These labourers were in the past brought from Fiji and their passages paid by their employers. The hours of work of a labourer in stores are nine a day. The Government employs Tongan labour on the roads. The unskilled man receives 3s. a day. Labourers on the plantations are few in number. They receive a wage of £2 to £4 a month with food.

Domestic servants are expensive. Tongan men do not engage in domestic duties and Tongan girls receive a wage of £2 10s. to £3 a month and food. Indian cooks from Fiji, when procurable, receive a wage of £5 to £6 a month, with food, and in addition their fares from and to Fiji are paid by their employers.

The staple foodstuff of the Tongan is root crops grown on his own farm. He uses his pigs as a meat diet. Fish, locally caught, is extensively eaten. It would be difficult to assess with any degree of accuracy his cost of living.

When labourers are rationed by employers the cost is approximately £1 10s. a month. They are given a diet similar to that of a Tongan.

X.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

The early history of education in Tonga is closely associated with the activities of the Christian Missions. The Government, however, decided on the establishment of State schools at an early stage in the development of the country; there are refer-

ences to such schools in speeches by King George I delivered over 50 years ago. In 1882 the first King founded Tonga College. He made a personal gift of the valuable site on which the College was built and also endowed it with a large area of planting land. Since its foundation 4,547 students have been in residence.

Some years before Tonga College was founded, the King had founded Tubou College. The Wesleyan Mission since 1826 had carried out educational work but the foundation of the College in 1866 marked a definite advance. Girls were admitted to Tubou College in 1870 and it is on record that girls have been captains of the whole school.

In 1888 the Roman Catholic Mission founded Api Foou College for the further training of selected boys from parochial schools.

Secondary schools are also conducted by the Seventh Day Adventist and the Latter Day Saints Missions.

In the various Tonga Codes of Law which have been published during the last 50 years statutes dealing with education have been included. In 1927 a comprehensive Act was passed. Education is compulsory for all Tongans between the ages of six and fourteen years. The schools, under the Education Act, are divided into three types, primary, middle, and high. The primary schools provide an elementary education in the vernacular. There are 62 Government and 46 denominational primary schools. The average daily attendance throughout the year was 6,398. Practically all Tongans between the ages of six and fourteen attend the primary schools. These schools provide an education in accordance with a Government syllabus and are subject to an inspection. Elementary instruction is given in the three Rs, history of Tonga, geography, hygiene, singing, needlework, and native arts. The buildings of the Government primary schools were, until the year 1930, provided and maintained by the taxpayers of the villages. By an amending law of that year they are charged on general revenue. Education is free. In all primary schools there is co-education.

It has not been possible to establish the middle schools provided for in the Act. At these an elementary education on an English basis will be given. In the primary schools the medium of instruction is Tongan, but in several of these elementary instruction in English is now given.

The Colleges to which reference has been made above provide a general secondary education of a simple nature. They are residential.

Education is controlled by the Minister of Education who is assisted by the Director of Education and a Board of Education. During the year the posts of Director of Education and Principal

of Tonga College were separated. A Director of Education, from New Zealand, was appointed but did not assume duty before the end of the year.

The staff at the Government College consists of the European Principal, one European master, five Tongan masters, and a bandmaster. There are 185 boys in residence. The decrease in numbers as compared with the previous year is due to the raising of the standard of entrance and to the reduction of the maximum age of pupils from 23 to 21. The ordinary academic subjects are taught; the medium of instruction is English. The boys grow their own food, mostly vegetables and root crops, on the College plantation. The College brass band during term gives a weekly recital in the War Memorial Band Rotunda in Nukualofa and plays on official occasions. The band was first formed in the College in 1886 under the conductorship of the grandson of the royal founder of the College.

The Director of Education conducts an annual course of instruction at the College for teachers from the Government primary schools during the July vacation. Instruction is practical and theoretical and the results have proved useful.

Tubou College is a Free Wesleyan Mission School. It is now divided into two parts, the boys' school at Nafualu and the girls' school at Nukualofa. Both are residential. At the end of the year there were 380 boys and 182 girls in residence. The staff at the boys' school consists of one European and seven Tongans; at the girls' school there are one European and four Tongan teachers. The object of the school at Nafualu is the training of boys in academic subjects to fit them for general usefulness in the country and especially in the Church, as primary school teachers in Mission schools. In examinations conducted by the Government the record of the school is particularly good. It possesses a museum housed in an historic Tongan Church which was removed from Nukualofa and re-erected in the school grounds. The museum building is the finest example of Tongan architecture now extant. The collection consists of over 200 exhibits.

At the girls' school the curriculum is similar to that taught in the boys' school, domestic science being substituted for the agricultural training given to the boys.

At Api Foou College, there are 104 students in residence. The staff consists of one European and seven Tongans.

Secondary education for girls, apart from Mission, is undeveloped.

A subsidy is provided by the Government to assist in the education of European children in Nukualofa, where there is a small private school which provides elementary education in English. The Missions have schools which European children attend.

A scholarship scheme was inaugurated in 1927 under which Tongan students from the secondary schools proceed abroad for higher education. During the year one scholar was studying in Australia, one learning survey work in Fiji and three were students at the Central Medical School, Fiji. The value of the scholarships is from £100 to £150 a year.

Expenditure on educational services amounted to £5,835. This sum is equivalent to 8·9 per cent. of the total expenditure for the year.

No fees are charged in any Government schools.

The following fees are charged at Mission schools:—

Wesleyan Mission.—Secondary schools only. Boys—£1 per annum. Girls—£2 per annum.

Roman Catholic Mission.—Schools at Nukualofa in Tongatabu and Neiafu in Vavau. One shilling per week.

Latter Day Saints Mission.—Secondary school only, 10s. per annum.

No fees are charged at the other schools of these Missions nor at the schools conducted by the Anglican Mission, the Seventh Day Adventist Mission and the Free Church of Tonga.

The Government of Tonga contributes to the funds of the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies.

Games play an important part in Tongan school life. The Tongan is a keen rugby footballer and cricketer and a particularly good tennis player. The sports meeting between Tonga College and Tubou College is one of the big events of Tongan social life. At the girls' school basket ball is extensively played.

The Tongan is an accomplished musician. Brass and string bands exist in most of the principal towns.

The Tongan is much interested in concerts at which European and Tongan items are performed. Considerable ability is displayed in staging simple plays which are frequently included in concert programmes.

On account of the nature of the Tongan polity it is unnecessary to make any provision for orphanages or for the maintenance of persons incapacitated by sickness or accident or for the aged. In all cases care and maintenance devolve upon the relatives who assume responsibility as a matter of course.

During the year 1931 a " European Aid Society " was formed in Nukualofa, having for its object the assistance of aged Europeans. Apart from a small subsidy from the Government, the Society is a voluntary one and is kept in funds by small uniform subscriptions from residents. It represents a modest effort on the part of Europeans to render assistance to deserving cases which arise in the community.

XI.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

A regular four-weekly subsidized cargo service between Nukualofa and Auckland was maintained during the year by a steamer of the Union Steamship Company. The vessel had accommodation for 48 passengers. The route followed is Auckland, Rarotonga, Tonga, Samoa, Fiji, Auckland. During the cool season (May to October) the vessel proceeds to Tonga direct from Auckland. In addition seven vessels visited the Protectorate during the year for copra cargoes. Of these, one was British and six were Swedish.

Two tourist vessels visited Nukualofa during the year.

The total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared at the two ports of entry amounted to 115,472. Of this total 75,414 were British, 36,476 Swedish, 3,204 Mexican and 322 Japanese.

Inter-insular communication is maintained by a Japanese auxiliary ketch and by a number of small sailing vessels.

Roads.

There are approximately 50 miles of metalled road in Tongatabu and 14 miles in Vavau suitable for motor traffic. The by-roads are graded earth roads; they are unsuitable for heavy traffic during rains.

There are no railways in the islands.

Telephones and Wireless.

The Tonga Government maintains a wireless station at Nukualofa and sub-stations at Vavau, Haapai, Niuafoou and Niuatobutabu. The sub-stations communicate only with the main station. Nukualofa radio communicates with New Zealand, Samoa and Fiji and thence to all parts of the world. The service with New Zealand was inaugurated in April, 1935, and is conducted on short wave by the Nukualofa and Wellington fixed stations. The sub-stations are equipped with valve transmitters rated at 10 watts input. The power supplied for the valves is furnished by a battery of Leclanche type primary cells. The sub-stations are operated by Tongans who receive training locally.

The terminal charges, for ordinary telegrams, from abroad, of the Nukualofa radio, for all Tongan stations, is 6d. per word except under the Inter-Empire Scheme. The inter-insular charge is 2d. per word for all classes of telegrams.

There is a telephone system in Nukualofa which is administered by the Superintendent of Telegraphs. There are 100 subscribers.

Eighty broadcast receiving sets were licensed during the year.

Reception from Australasia, the American Continent and Eastern Asiatic stations is generally good throughout the year

on medium and short wave. The main European short wave stations are regularly received. As regards the Empire Broadcasting Service the transmissions best received locally are No. 1 and No. 4. Reception is particularly good from April to November. It can be stated that there is seldom a day throughout the year when it is not possible to receive the Empire News by one or other of the transmissions.

Posts.

Foreign mails were despatched throughout the year by Union Steamship Company boats and copra vessels.

Collectors of Customs at Nukualofa and Vavau act as postmasters at these ports. British postal-orders are issued at the chief post offices. Money-orders are also issued. During the year the total value of stamps sold amounted to £2,281. Money-orders to a value of £1,303 were issued and orders to a value of £759 paid. Postal-orders issued and paid amounted in value to £242 and £62 respectively.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The Works Department of the Government of Tonga has been reduced, for financial reasons, to a skeleton staff and now consists of one European officer assisted by a Tongan staff. Works beyond the capacity of the Department are carried out by contractors from abroad or by arrangement with the Public Works Department of Fiji. During the year an engineer from the Public Works Department of the New Zealand Government visited the group and reported on road construction and maintenance, quarries, foreshore protection works and public works administration in general. In addition to maintenance work on roads and buildings and water tanks, good progress was made with the sea wall at Nukualofa, two steel navigation light towers were erected, a new ward at Nukualofa Hospital was built and five miles of earth road were metalled.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

There are two jurisdictions in Tonga, the British and the Tongan.

The British Agent holds a commission as a Deputy Commissioner of His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner's Court for the Western Pacific. He is a Judicial Commissioner in Divorce, and has jurisdiction in probate and divorce matters where British subjects and foreigners are parties.

The jurisdiction of the British Court is exercised in conformity with the provisions of the Pacific Order in Council, 1893. The principles of British law, so far as circumstances admit, are applied. The judicial work of the British Agent is light. During the year three criminal and two civil cases were heard and determined. Two letters of administration issued.

Under the provisions of the Treaty between Tonga and Great Britain of 1900, as amended by the Agreement of 1927, jurisdiction in all civil matters and in criminal matters punishable by death or by more than two years imprisonment or by fine with an alternative of more than two years imprisonment, is exercised by the British Court over British subjects and foreigners, while all minor criminal jurisdiction is regulated by Chapter 5 of the Revised Laws of Tonga, 1928, as amended by Acts 8 of 1933 and 6 of 1936. Under this legislation the Tongan Courts have criminal jurisdiction over British subjects and foreigners in cases punishable by fine or imprisonment not exceeding two years as follows:—

(1) Where the maximum fine exceeds £50 the case is heard by the Chief Justice with a jury or in the case of Europeans by the Chief Justice with the aid of two European assessors.

(2) Where the maximum fine does not exceed £50 the case is heard by the Chief Police Magistrate.

Save as above the Courts of the Tongan Government have jurisdiction. The Supreme Court exercises jurisdiction in all civil cases in which the amount claimed exceeds £50 and in all criminal cases where the maximum penalty exceeds a fine of £50 or two years' imprisonment; other cases are heard in the Magistrates' Courts.

The Justice Department of the Government of Tonga consists of the Chief Justice, who acts also as Land Judge and as Chief Police Magistrate, and three Tongan Magistrates.

The Land Court Judge, sitting with a Tongan assessor, hears and determines land claims.

Serious crime among the Tongan people is of infrequent occurrence.

The following table shows the number of indictments which have been tried by the Chief Justice during the last five years:—

Year.	*Number of Indictments.*	*Convictions.*
1934	33	27
1935	28	24
1936	48	38
1937	59	48
1938	60	57

The following table shows the number of criminal cases heard and determined in the Magistrates' Courts during the last five years:—

Year.	*Number of Cases.*	*Convictions.*	*Acquittals.*
1934	3,334	2,274	821
1935	3,264	2,349	721
1936	3,362	2,421	727
1937	3,590	2,562	768
1938	3,014	2,190	597

Sixty cases were committed for trial.

The majority of criminal cases heard in the Magistrates' Courts were for minor municipal and traffic offences.

The following table shows the number of convictions recorded during the last five years for the cases dealt with in the Magistrates' Courts other than municipal and traffic offences:—

Offence.	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*	*1937.*	*1938.*
Theft	137	114	150	150	178
Trespass	44	33	77	100	86
Other offences against property	2	1	4	19	4
Assault	104	107	122	175	178
Fighting	31	34	25	22	27
Cruelty to animals ...	64	109	83	82	64

The various punishments imposed during the year in respect of convictions in the Magistrates' Courts were as follows:—fines, 1,931; imprisonment for non-payment of fines, 1,025; peremptory imprisonment, 141; whipping or whipping and imprisonment, 100.

There is a considerable amount of civil litigation among the Tongans. During the year no civil cases came before the Supreme Court, but 1,865 actions were heard in the Magistrates' Courts.

There is an appeal from a Magistrate's decision to the Chief Justice in all civil cases and in every criminal case except when the defendant pleads guilty.

During the year the Chief Justice heard 32 appeals, 24 criminal and eight civil. In the criminal appeals the sentences and fines imposed by the Magistrates were affirmed in 11 cases, one was remitted for rehearing, one was varied, two reduced and nine appeals were allowed. In the civil appeals the decisions of the Magistrates were upheld in three cases, three were remitted to the Magistrates for rehearing and two appeals were allowed.

The Supreme Court heard eight cases in Divorce. A decree absolute was granted in seven cases and cancelled in one.

The Supreme Court in its probate jurisdiction granted letters of administration in 60 cases. The number of grants of probate or letters of administration which issued out of the Court during the last five years were as follows:—1934, 72; 1935, 67; 1936, 95; 1937, 78; and 1938, 60.

The total value of estates in 1938 was £5,726.

There are one European and 19 Tongan lawyers practising in the Tongan Courts. Licences to practise are issued by the Chief Justice who has discretionary power to refuse to issue a licence to undesirable persons. A local legal examination in Tongan Statute Law was instituted during the year. New applicants are required to qualify in this examination or to produce external legal qualifications.

Police.

The Police Department is in the charge of a Tongan Minister who is also the Public Prosecutor. The Department has a strength of one European inspector, three Tongan inspectors, and 38 non-commissioned officers and men. The Tongan police, when called upon to do so, assist His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner's Court in making arrests and enforcing judgments.

The total expenditure of the force for all services was £4,247. The cost of the police per head of the population was 2s. 6d.

The number of persons prosecuted by the police for offences of all kinds during the last five years is as follows:—1934, 3,253; 1935, 2,942; 1936, 3,199; 1937, 3,540; 1938, 3,000. The great majority of these prosecutions were for offences of a trivial nature.

All traffic is controlled by the force, which carries out the registration of motor vehicles and the examination of drivers.

In addition to ordinary police duties the force is responsible for the inspection of villages and road frontages and the taking of the annual census.

Prisons.

The Minister of Police is in charge of the Prisons. There is a main gaol at Nukualofa with sub-goals at Ha'apai, Vavau, and the two Niuas. There is also a sub-gaol on the Government Agricultural Station at Naikeli where prisoners grow foodstuffs for the Prison and Police Departments. Juvenile offenders are confined in the latter sub-gaol apart from adult prisoners. Crime among juveniles is very rare. All prisoners undergoing a sentence of over six months imprisonment are confined in the Nukualofa gaol. The number of prisoners in custody on 1st January and 31st December in Nukualofa gaol was 130 and 77 respectively.

The main gaol at Nukualofa consists of two main wooden buildings, a women's gaol, and a hospital. There is no provision for the confinement of prisoners in separate cells.

The sub-gaols consist of small wooden buildings suitable for local requirements.

Prisoners are visited regularly by the Medical Officer. The health of the prisoners throughout the year was satisfactory.

Prisoners may earn remission of sentence by industry accompanied by good conduct. The maximum remission for prisoners undergoing a first term of imprisonment is one-quarter of the sentence.

Orders for payments of fines made in the Magistrates' Courts are not enforced for 14 days after the making of the order. If the law under which the order is made does not provide for imprisonment in default of payment a warrant of distress is

then issued. In default of distress a warrant of commitment issues ordering a defendant to be imprisoned in respect of the sum still remaining unsatisfied by the distress for any term not exceeding the term specified in respect of a like sum in the scale of imprisonment provided in the Magistrates Act.

Provision is made in Tongan law for the probation of offenders when any person is convicted of an offence, and the Court is of opinion, having regard to the character, age, health or mental condition of the person charged, or to the trivial nature of the offence, or to the extenuating circumstances under which it was committed, that it is inexpedient to inflict any other than a nominal punishment, or that it is expedient to release the offender on probation, the Court may, in lieu of imposing a sentence of imprisonment, make an order discharging the offender conditionally on his entering into recognizance, with or without securities, to be of good behaviour and to appear for sentence when called upon at any time during such period not exceeding three years as may be specified in the order. When a probation order is made the Court is required to furnish the offender with a notice in writing stating in simple terms the conditions he is required to observe.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Fourteen Acts were passed at the 1938 Session of the Tongan Parliament. The most important were:—

The Customs Duties Act, 1938.

This Act consolidates and amends the Customs Duties Acts of 1933, 1934, and 1935. The amendments increase the margin of preference granted to British Empire goods and enlarge the list of articles on which specific duties are levied. Duties on certain articles, mostly used in agriculture, are reduced. Particulars of the Customs Tariff are given under Head XVI.

The Poll Tax Amendment Act.

This Act reduces the amount of the poll tax and the penalties for non-payment and amends the procedure for the collection of the tax.

The Clemency Act, 1938.

This Act provides for the remission of arrears of Poll Tax up to the 31st December, 1937.

The Legislative Assembly Act, 1938.

This Act makes provision for the vacation of the seat of a representative who has ceased to be qualified or in the event of prolonged or unreasonable absence from the Legislative Assembly.

The Aircraft Fuel and Lubricants Act, 1938.

This Act applied to Tonga the agreement between the United Kingdom and the Netherlands for the reciprocal exemption of aircraft from the payment of customs and other duties on fuel and lubricants.

The Wireless Telegraphy Act (Amendment Act), 1938.

This Act provides for the inspection of electrical and other machinery and for the enforcement of measures for the elimination of interference therefrom in wireless reception.

XV.—BANKING, CURRENCY AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

A Government Savings Bank was established in 1926. The following statistics show the operations of the Bank since its institution:—

Year.	*Deposits.*	*Withdrawals.*
	£	£
1926	3,495	558
1927	7,929	3,900
1928	12,347	9,717
1929	11,359	8,528
1930	23,689	14,228
1931	15,930	11,358
1932	19,763	15,546
1933	10,578	15,303
1934	17,649	18,797
1935	10,005	16,310
1936	12,519	10,967
1937	9,660	10,002
1938	12,463	13,210

The total amount at the credit of depositors at the end of the year was £20,028.

The number of depositors at the end of the year was:—

Tongans	1,238
Europeans and others	183

Interest at the rate of 2¾ per cent. was allowed on the first £500 deposited and at the rate of 2½ per cent. for an additional amount up to £1,000.

The invested funds of the Bank amount to £20,130.

There is no other Bank in Tonga.

There are no building, co-operative, or friendly societies.

Currency.

British and Australian coin was made the currency of Tonga by a Statute passed by the Tongan Parliament in 1906. Tongan Government notes were issued in 1919; at the present time notes to the value of £25,073 are in circulation. The issue is secured by an investment reserve. The Treasury Notes Act, 1935, adopts the exchange standard system based on Australian currency.

Weights and Measures.

British weights and measures are, by Statute, the standard weights and measures of the country.

XVI.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The Tongan financial year ends on 30th June. The revenue and expenditure totals for each of the last five years are as follows:—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1933–34	54,743	64,620
1934–35	61,654	55,515
1935–36	68,660	59,904
1936–37	73,471	55,938
1937–38	69,242	62,742

There is no public debt, and at the close of the last financial year the surplus funds amounted to £174,507 (Tongan Currency). These funds are invested in New Zealand, Australian, Federated Malay States, Uganda, Northern Rhodesia, Kenya and Nigeria Stock, and in fixed deposits with the Bank of New Zealand in Sydney.

The main heads of taxation are the native tax, Customs dues, and trading licences.

The following table shows the yield of the Customs dues and native tax during the last five years:—

Year.	*Customs.*	*Native Tax.*
	£	£
1933–34	20,181	9,437
1934–35	21,823	13,824
1935–36	25,710	13,401
1936–37	32,697	13,620
1937–38	31,107	12,470

The tariff was revised during the year to increase the margin of preference for goods of Empire origin and to reduce the duty on certain articles mostly used in agriculture. The general tariff was increased to 20 per cent. as against Empire tariff free and 33⅓ per cent. as against Empire tariff 12½ per cent. The list of articles on which specific or alternative specific duties are levied was enlarged.

The principal specific duties are as follows:—

Article.	*General Tariff.*	*British preferential Tariff.*
	s. d.	s. d.
Ale, beer and porter ... ... per gallon...	2 6	1 6
Bags or sacks, new, for copra ... per dozen...	1 6	Free
Boots, bootees, shoes, overshoes, slippers and sandals, childrens.	33⅓ per cent. or 1s. per pair.	12½ per cent.
Ditto Adults	33⅓ per cent. or 2s. per pair.	12½ per cent.

Article	*General Tariff.* s. d.	*British preferential Tariff.* s. d.
Benzine, gasolene or other motor spirit, per gallon...	4	4
Cigars and Cigarettes ... ... per lb. ...	10 0	8 0
Flour ... ... per 150 lb.	4 6	2 3
Kerosene of 150 degrees or over, closed flash test per gallon	3	3
Kerosene, under 150 degrees, closed flash test, per gallon.	1 6	1 6
Kerosene for industrial purposes ... per gallon...	3	3
Matches, safety ... ... per gross...	2 6	Free
Shingles ... ... per 1,000...	3 0	2 0
Spirits of all kinds, of which the strength can be ascertained by Sykes' hydrometer, and which is proof or over proof, per proof gallon.	34 0	28 0
Spirits of all kinds, of which the strength can be ascertained by Sykes' hydrometer and which is under proof, per liquid gallon.	29 0	23 0
Spirits of all kinds, the strength of which cannot be ascertained by Sykes' hydrometer, per liquid gallon.	29 0	23 0
Sugar ... ... per lb. ...	1	½
Textile piece goods exceeding 36 inches in length and exceeding 12 inches in width but not exceeding 36 inches in width.	33⅓ per cent.	12½ per cent.
or per lineal yard	2	—
Textile piece goods exceeding 36 inches in length and exceeding 36 inches in width but not exceeding 72 inches in width.	33⅓ per cent.	12½ per cent.
or per lineal yard	4	—
Textile piece goods exceeding 36 inches in length and exceeding 72 inches in width.	33⅓ per cent.	12½ per cent.
or per lineal yard	6	—
Timber, undressed ... per 100 feet superficial...	2 6	1 6
Timber, dressed or surfaced, per 100 feet superficial...	3 0	2 0
Tobacco, manufactured ... ... per lb. ...	7 0	5 0
Tobacco, unmanufactured ... ... per lb. ...	4 6	2 6
Umbrellas, parasols and sunshades	33⅓ per cent.	12½ per cent.
or each	9	—
Wearing apparel :—		
Shirts	33⅓ per cent.	12½ per cent.
or each	9	—
Singlets or undervests	33⅓ per cent.	12½ per cent.
or each	3	—
Wines :—		
(*a*) Still, including vermouth ... per gallon...	3 0	2 0
(*b*) Sparkling ... ... per gallon...	12 0	8 0

The principal articles admitted free are:—

(a) *From all countries.*

Books and periodicals, coin, eggs, meat, music, photographs, pictures, seeds and samples.

(b) *From British Empire countries.*

Bags or sacks, barrels, copra driers, explosives, films, flame throwers, fruit cases and shooks, insecticides, live stock, machinery and implements for agriculture, manures, matches, staples, wire for fencing, wire netting, water pumps, water pipes (galvanised), wireless receiving sets.

There is an export tax on copra of £1 per ton.
There are no excise duties.
The principal stamp duties on documents are:—

	s.	d.
Agreement or memorandum of agreement (whether the same be evidence of a contract or obligatory upon the parties from its being a written document)—		
Where the value amounts to £1 but does not exceed £3	0	2
Where the value exceeds £3 but does not exceed £10	1	0
Where the value exceeds £10 then for every additional £10 and also for every part of £10 (but not to exceed 10s. on any such document) ...	2	0
Bill of lading and each copy	1	0
Bill of exchange—		
(1) payable on demand or at sight or on presentation	0	2
(2) payable otherwise than on demand, sight, or presentation, drawn or expressed to be payable in or actually paid or endorsed in any manner negotiated in the Kingdom—		
For any sum not exceeding £50	1	0
For every additional £50 and also for every fractional part of £50	1	0
Promissory Note of any kind (except a Bank note or Currency note)—		
For every sum not exceeding £5		2
Exceeding £5 but not exceeding £25		6
For every additional £25 and also for every fractional part of £25		6
(Exemptions.—All bills of exchange or promissory notes issued by any Bank for Government purposes to the Treasurer.)		
Lease or agreement for a lease or any written document for the tenancy or occupancy of any land or buildings—		
The following duties in respect of the rent at the rate per annum—		
Where the rent does not exceed £25	2	0
Where the rent exceeds £25 and does not exceed £50	5	0
Above £50, for every £50, and also for every fractional part of £50	5	0
Conveyance or transfer—		
(1) Of any lease	5	0
(2) On sale of any goods whether included in a transfer of a lease or not for every £50 and also for every fractional part of £50	2	0
Mortgage, bond, debenture, or covenant—		
(1) Being the only or principal or primary security for the payment or repayment of any money not exceeding £50	2	0

	s.	*d.*
For every additional £50 and also for every fractional part of £50	2	0
(2) Transfer or assignment of any mortgage, bond, debenture, or covenant, and also where any further money is added to the money secured.	(The same rate of duty as (1).)	
(3) Being a collateral, or auxiliary, or additional, or substituted security, or by way of further assurance for the above-mentioned purposes—		
Where the principal or primary security is duly stamped	2	0
(4) Re-conveyance, release, or discharge of any such security as aforesaid or the benefit thereof, or of the money thereby secured	2	0
Receipt—		
Given for or upon the payment of money—		
Amounting to £2 or upwards but not exceeding £50	0	2
Exceeding £50 or upwards but not exceeding £100	0	4
Exceeding £100	0	6
(Exemptions.—Receipts given for or upon the payment of money to or for the use of the Government of Tonga; receipts or discharges given by any person for the payment of wages or salary; receipts given for contributions for charitable institutions or religious bodies.)		

All male Tongans, when they attain the age of 16 years, pay a poll tax of 32s. per annum. The tax is paid in quarterly instalments. The yield of the tax during the last five years is set out above. A register of taxpayers is kept by the district tax clerk. The register is revised annually from a list of taxpayers prepared by the District Officer. The tax is paid to the district clerk by the taxpayer. Exemption from the tax may be granted on the grounds of old age or sickness.

There is no hut tax.

APPENDIX A.

TONGA.

METEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR 1938.

Extremes and Means for the year.

(*Observations made at* 20.00 *G.M.T.*)

NUKUALOFA. (Lat.: 21°-08′ S. Long.: 175°-12′ W.)

Barometer:—
Highest, 30·200 on 14th August.
Lowest, 29·700 on 15th January.
Mean, 29·937.

Humidity:—
Highest, 99·0 per cent. on 21st October.
Lowest, 52·0 per cent. on 28th May.
Mean, 80·0 per cent.

Temperature:—
Highest, 90·0° on 13th January.
Lowest 57·9° on 10th June.
Mean, 75·0°.
Rainfall: 60·33 inches.
Number of days on which rain fell: 184.
Most rain in any 24 hour period: 3·44 inches on 2nd April.
Prevailing direction of wind: E.S.E.
Cyclonic Disturbances: A small but intense tornado traversed Tongatabu from Nukuhetulu to the Liku in the early morning of 20th July.

HA'APAI. (Lat.: 19°-49′ S. Long.: 174°-21′ W.)

Barometer:—
Highest, 30·166 on 14th August.
Lowest, 29·672 on 16th November.
Mean, 29·928.
Humidity:—
Highest, 98·5 per cent. on 13th November.
Lowest, 53·0 per cent. on 10th June.
Mean, 78·5 per cent.
Temperature:—
Highest, 92·6° on 4th and 5th January.
Lowest, 60·0° on 25th May and 8th August.
Mean, 78·3°.
Rainfall: 60·97 inches.
Number of days on which rain fell: 197.
Most rain in any 24 hour period: 4·15 inches on 15th January.
Prevailing direction of wind: East.
Cyclonic Disturbances: Nil.

VAVAU. (Lat.: 18°-39′ S. Long.: 173°-59′ W.)

Barometer:—
Highest, 30·133 on 14th August.
Lowest, 29·622 on 15th January.
Mean, 29·898.
Humidity:—
Highest, 97·5 per cent. on 16th July and 4th October.
Lowest, 58·0 per cent. on 11th October.
Mean, 77·9 per cent.
Temperature:—
Highest, 89·0° on 14th January and 7th February.
Lowest, 61·0° on 10th June.
Mean, 78·5°.
Rainfall: 77·91 inches.
Number of days on which rain fell: 198.
Most rain in any 24 hour period: 3·91 inches on 28th November.
Prevailing direction of wind: East.
Cyclonic disturbances: Nil.

NIUATOBUTABU. (Lat.: 15°-58′ S. Long.: 173°-47′ W.)

Barometer:—
Highest, 30·068 on 6th July.
Lowest, 29·628 on 16th January.
Mean, 29·878.
Humidity:—
Highest, 98·5 per cent. on 30th November.
Lowest, 57·0 per cent. on 3th July.
Mean, 77·3 per cent.

Temperature:—
Highest, 90·1° on 20th November.
Lowest, 64·5° on 2nd July.
Mean, 80·4°.
Rainfall: 107·65 inches.
Number of days on which rain fell: 234.
Most rain in any 24 hour period: 5·62 inches on 3rd October.
Prevailing direction of wind: East.
Cyclonic disturbances: Nil.

NIUAFO'OU. (Lat.: 15°-34′ S. Long.: 175°-38′ W.)

Barometer:—
Highest, 30·052 on 14th August.
Lowest, 29·608 on 16th November.
Mean, 29·871.
Humidity:—
Highest, 98·0 per cent. on 6th December.
Lowest, 54·5 per cent. on 30th September.
Mean, 79·4 per cent.
Temperature:—
Highest, 91·6° on 18th January.
Lowest, 66·1° on 2nd July.
Mean, 81·2°.
Rainfall: 107·07 inches.
Number of days on which rain fell: 189.
Most rain in any 24 hours period: 6·81 inches on 21st January.
Prevailing direction of wind: East.
Cyclonic disturbances: Nil.

APPENDIX B.

Publications.

Mariner's Account of the Tonga Islands. J. Martin. Murray. London 1817.

Missionary Voyage of the Duff, commanded by Capt. James Wilson. Chapman. London, 1799.

Account of a voyage in search of La Perouse. J. J. de Labillardiere. London, 1802.

Diversions of a Prime Minister, Sir B. H. Thomson. Blackwood. London, 1894 (15s.).

Tongan Society. E. W. Gifford. Bishop Museum, Honolulu, 1929.

History and Geography of Tonga. A. H. Wood. Government Printer. Tonga, 1932. Revised edition 1938.

Annual Colonial Reports. H.M. Stationery Office.

(19615—48) Wt. 2212—4347 625 11/39 P. St. G. 377/7

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

THE FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC POSITION OF NORTHERN RHODESIA

Report of the Commission [Colonial No. 145] 7s. (7s. 6d.)

LABOUR CONDITIONS IN NORTHERN RHODESIA

Report by Major G. St. J. Orde Browne, O.B.E.
[Colonial No. 150] 2s. (2s. 3d.)

NYASALAND. FINANCIAL POSITION AND FURTHER DEVELOPMENT

Report of Commission [Colonial No. 152] 10s. (10s. 6d.)

RHODESIA-NYASALAND ROYAL COMMISSION

Report [Cmd. 5949] 7s. 6d. (7s. 11d.)

LABOUR CONDITIONS IN THE WEST INDIES

Report by Major G. St. J. Orde Browne, O.B.E.
[Cmd. 6070] 3s. 6d. (3s. 10d.)

THE SYSTEM OF APPOINTMENT IN THE COLONIAL OFFICE AND THE COLONIAL SERVICES

Report of Committee [Cmd. 3554 (1930)] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS FOR THE COLONIAL SERVICE

Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730 (1934)] 9d. (10d.)

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Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

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Report of the Colonial Students Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, December, 1938 [Colonial No. 161] 9d. (10d.)

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Colonial Police Service List	[Colonial No. 168] 1s. (1s. 2d.)
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H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

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